The North-Eastern Daily Gazette.

ESTABLISHED 1869. FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 1891. PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Public Companies.

Applications for Debentures must be made on the form accompanying the prospectus, and be lodged with the Secretary of the Company, together with a cheque for five per cent. of the amount applied for.

ANGLO-AUSTRALIAN INVESTMENT, FINANCE, and LAND COMPANY (Limited). Incorporated in October, 1880. Capital £500,000. Subscribed, £500,000. Paid-up, £244,000. Reserve Fund, £67,525. Debentures, £534,000, AT 5½ PER CENT. REDEEMABLE AT PAR, being balance of an Authorised Issue of £600,000.

Payable:
- £5 per cent. on application.
- £5 " on allotment.
- £5 " one month after allotment
- £5 " two months "
- £5 " three months "

The interest on the Debentures will be payable half-yearly in London, on 1st January and 1st July. Each bond will carry interest from the date when the money is actually received by the Company. Applications may be paid up in full on allotment.

Scrip will be payable in London on and after 15th February.

LONDON BOARD.

The Right Hon. Lord LETHBRIDGE, K.C.I.E., M.P., Chairman.
The Right Hon. Lord HAMPTON.
ALFRED S. HEATON, Esq., M.P.
The Manager in London—GEORGE HARDIE, Esq.

DIRECTORS IN SYDNEY.

JOHN GORMAN, Esq., J.P. (Messrs Hardie and Gorman), Sydney, Chairman.
ALEXANDER WRIGHT, Esq., J.P., Sydney.
The Hon. EDWARD MILLS, Sydney.
HUGH GARRAN, Esq., Sydney.
JOSEPH PERKINS, Esq., Sydney.
ALEXANDER NEWMAN, Esq., J.P., Sydney.
The Manager—BENJAMIN JAMES, Esq.

BANKERS.

The London and County Banking Company (Limited), with their branches.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs SAWLEY AND FAULKNER, 7 and 8, Ironmongers-lane, London, E.C.

OFFICES.

London: 31, Lombard-street, E.C.; Sydney, 24, Hunter-street.

PROSPECTUS.

The Anglo-Australian Investment, Finance, and Land Company (Limited) was formed in Sydney, New South Wales, in October, 1880, to purchase and resell, or to invest in freehold properties in the City of Sydney and its immediate vicinity, to negotiate and transact loans on freehold and other properties, but not generally in securities.

The operations of the Company were commenced when the population of Sydney was but little over 200,000, and it now contains 400,000. The value of land in the city and its immediate vicinity has been greater since, and the investments of the Company have been of a most successful character, as will be seen by the dividends paid to the shareholders, which have been as follow:—

	1881.	1890.	Increase.
Gross earnings	£21,342 0 99	£34,415 5 99	£13,073 5 0
Net earnings	7,900 17 59	8,578 8 91	1,677 6 2
Dividends	1,191 8 5	2,101 2 2	909 14 9
	14	24	10
	12½	17½	5
	6	12	6
	6	15	9
	6	15	9
	6	15	9
	6	15	9

The profits made by the Company from its formation up to the 31st December, 1889, to June 30th, 1890, amount to £8,578 8s. 11d., have been appropriated as follows:—

Reserve Fund, £67,525; to dividends, £76,324; balance carried forward, £2,486.

Although the memorandum of association gives the Company power to invest in the colonies generally, it has devoted its attention almost exclusively to properties in the city of Sydney and its immediate vicinity, and has thus gained a most complete knowledge of the values, &c., in George-street, Clarence-street, Pitt-street, Bond-street, Castlereagh-street, Hunter-street, and other main thoroughfares in Sydney.

The security for the debenture holders will be the assets of the Company, which amount to £1,000,000, subject only to the moneys owing by the Company on mortgage of the freehold properties amounting to £328,790, which, deducted from £1,328,790, leaves £1,011,210, as the security for £350,000 debentures. The assets of the Company consist of

FURNISH AT LITHGOW & STORRY'S.

There is one of the Largest Furnishing Establishments in the district, their numerous showrooms containing an area of over 100,000 cubic feet. These spacious rooms are completely packed from floor to ceiling with a splendid assortment of

FURNITURE, CARPETS, BEDSTEADS, AND BEDDING,

Suitable for every class of Buyers.

DINING, DRAWING, AND SITTING ROOM SUITES,

In Oak, Walnut, Rosewood, and Mahogany Frame covered in Morocco, Roan, Pig Skins, Saddle Bags, Silk Brocatelle, Embossed Velvet, and Tapestries. A Grand Choice.

BEDROOM SUITES.
BEDROOM SUITES.
BEDROOM SUITES.
BEDROOM SUITES.

Over 50 in Stock to Select from.

BEDSTEADS. BEDSTEADS. BEDSTEADS. BEDSTEADS.

Over 500 in Stock to Select from.

LITHGOW & STORRY,
LEEDS HOUSE,
MARKET PLACE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

BEST FAMILY MEDICINE.
Pure Whole-Some Vegetable.
KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS
Established nearly 100 years.
KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS
Purify the Blood thoroughly.
KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS
A Mild but Effectual Aperient.
KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS
Cure Indigestion, Headache.
KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS
Cure Dyspepsia. Constipation.
KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS
Cure Liver and Nervous Complaints.
KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS
Invaluable to Ladies of all ages.
KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS
Remove Irregularities and Restore to Health.
Of all Chemists, price, 1s 1½d, 2s 9d, and 4s 6d per box

PREVENTIVE AGAINST TYPHOID FEVER, COLDS, &c.

COUNT MATTEI'S ELECTRO-HOMŒOPATHIC REMEDIES.
For all Ailments, including Headache, Toothache, Indigest on, Cancer, &c.
See "Sketch" of Count Mattei in the "Review of Reviews" for January, with letters from Prof. Huxley, Prof. Tyndall, Sir Morell MacKenzie, &c., &c.
Sole Agent for this district (with power to appoint sub-agents)—
MR. H. H. READMAN,
6, RICHMOND-ROAD, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Five Hundred, with directions, post free for 5s. 9d
Descriptive Circular, with all particulars, free on application.
Hours for Consultation, 5 to 7 p.m.

CULA BITTERS — *HAVE YOU*
CULA BITTERS — A disagreeable taste in your mouth
CULA BITTERS — early in the morning, accom-
CULA BITTERS — panied by headache and general
CULA BITTERS — weariness?
CULA BITTERS — *DO YOU*
CULA BITTERS — Feel nervous, a feeling of some-
CULA BITTERS — thing dreadful going to happen?
CULA BITTERS — Are you thoroughly out of sorts,
A certain and safe cure for Neuralgia, Indigestion, Low Spirits, Disorders Liver, Rheumatism, Nervousness.
languid, melancholy, irritable, ou to unfit for work?
ARE YOU
CULA BITTERS — Troubled with pains in the sides
CULA BITTERS — and back, fulness after meals,
CULA BITTERS — want of appetite, a sluggish liver,
CULA BITTERS — constipation?
CULA BITTERS — *CAN YOU*
CULA BITTERS — Be so foolish as to suffer thus
CULA BITTERS — when this *certain* and *perfectly safe*
CULA BITTERS — remedy may be obtained from any
CULA BITTERS — chem ist? Be advised, try a bottle
CULA BITTERS — to-day, and prove the marvellous
CULA BITTERS — curative properties of this truly
CULA BITTERS — wonder.ul medicine.
Sold in bottles, 1/- and 2/- each, by
F. A. GRAHAM, CHEMIST, STOCKTON,
And all Chem ists and Patent Medicine Dealers.
CAUTION.—Be careful to procure the genuine medicine.

SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Cures Eruptions.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Removes Pimples.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Banishes Blotches.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Cures Eczema.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Destroys Psoriasis.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Cures Acne.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Removes Blemishes.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Removes Discolourations.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Cures Scurvy.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Banishes all Spots.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Cures all Skin Complaints.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Removes Redness.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Clears the Skin.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
For Healthy Skin.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
For Soft Supple Skin.
SULPHOLINE LOTION.
Bottles Sold Everywhere.

PEPPER'S QUININE & IRON TONIC.
GREAT BODILY STRENGTH.
GREAT NERVE STRENGTH.
GREAT MENTAL STRENGTH.
GREAT DIGESTIVE STRENGTH.
PEPPER'S QUININE & IRON TONIC
CURES NEURALGIA,
2s 6d. WEAKNESS, HYSTERIA. 2s 6d.
NERVOUS COMPLAINTS.
GENERAL DEBILITY.
PEPPER'S QUININE & IRON TONIC
INCREASES STRENGTH OF PULSE,
GIVES FIRMNESS TO THE MUSCLES,
QUICKENS FEEBLE CIRCULATION,
OVERCOMES PROSTRATION, LANGOUR, &c.
PEPPER'S QUININE & IRON TONIC
Promotes appetite, strengthens the stomach, stopping sinking sensations, removes indigestion, heartburn, palpitation, cures dyspepsia, debility, &c. Bottles 2s 6d, next size 4s 6d. Sold everywhere.

PEPPER'S TARAXACUM and PODOPHYLLIN. A fluid combination for derangement of the liver, particularly when arising from slight chills or cold. By gently stimulating action of the liver and slightly moving the bowels the heavy drowsy feeling, headache, pain beneath the shoulders, at the chest, sour rising, unpleasant taste in the mouth, and manifold other indications of dyspepsia, are removed. Taraxacum and Podophyllin is safer than calomel or blue pill. Bottles, 2s 9d. Sold by all Chemists. 1/-
Insist that Pepper's is supplied.

LOCKYER'S SULPHUR HAIR RESTORER is the safest and best. In a few days it gradually deepens grey hair to a perfectly natural shade. Lockyer's surpasses the effect of costly washes. Never disappointing. Guaranteed harmless. Large bottles, 1s 6d. Sold everywhere.

LOCKYER'S SULPHUR HAIR RESTORER produces a perfectly natural colour. The gradual change by scarcely perceptible gradations is certain, and for removing scurf, beautifying and cleansing the hair, causing it to grow wherever thin and patchy, Lockyer's is unrivalled.

RESPLENDENT IVORY-LIKE TEETH. —To make sure of these, CRACROFT'S ARECA NUT TOOTH PASTE is necessary. It dislodges tartar, thoroughly polishes the enamel, perfectly cleanses the teeth, hardens the gums, is astringent, aromatic, and delicious in flavour. Cracroft's Paste ensures a fine set of teeth. Sold everywhere. Pots 1s each.

A WONDERFUL MEDICINE.
BEECHAM'S PILLS

ARE universally admitted to be worth a Guinea a Box for Bilious and Nervous Disorders, such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Sick Headache, Giddiness, Fulness and Swelling after Meals, Dizziness and Drowsiness, Cold Chills, Flushings of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Shortness of Breath, Costiveness, Scurvy and Blotches on the Skin, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams, and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations, &c. The first dose will give relief in twenty minutes. Every sufferer is earnestly invited to try one box of these Pills, and they will be acknowledged to be
WORTH A GUINEA A BOX.
For females of all ages these Pills are invaluable, as a few doses of them carry off all impurities, and bring about all that is required. No female should be without them. There is no medicine to be found equal to Beecham's Pills for restoring long-lost complexion, bringing back the keen edge of appetite, and arouse into action with the rosebud of health the whole physical energy of the human frame. These are FACTS testified continually by members of all classes of society, and one of the best guarantees to the Nervous and Debilitated is BEECHAM'S PILLS *have the Largest Sale of any Patent Medicine in the World.*
BEECHAM'S MAGIC COUGH PILLS.
As a remedy for Coughs in general, Asthma, Bronchia Affections, Hoarseness, Shortness of Breath, Tightness and Oppression of the Chest, Wheezing, &c., these Pills stand unrivalled. They are the best ever offered to the public, and will speedily remove that sense of oppression and difficulty of breathing which mighty oppress the patient at rest. Let any person give BEECHAM'S COUGH PILLS a trial, and the most violent cough will in a short time be removed.
Prepared only, and sold Wholesale and Retail, by the Proprietor, Thomas Beecham, St. Helen's, Lancashire, in boxes 1s 1½d and 2s 9d each.
Sold by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Dealers everywhere.
N.B.—Full directions are given with each box.

WINTER SALE.

EXTRA-ORDINARY CAUSE.
Further Improvements and Developments to meet requirements of expanding trade.

SALE COMMENCED
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28th, 1891,
FOR TEN DAYS ONLY.

CARTER & COMPANY

In announcing their Winter Sale to commence at an earlier date, and to continue for a more limited period, beg to say that certain further improvements have been decided upon, which must be commenced immediately after the Sale so as to be completed before the Spring Season commences.
A reduction of Stock to the lowest point is necessary—1st, as a matter of convenience during alterations; and 2nd, to minimise the risk of depreciation from dust, &c., and with this view Solid Reductions in price have been made throughout the Departments, as the catalogue quotations will clearly show.
A Sixteen Page Catalogue, post free, on application.

No Goods sent on approbation during this Sale. No Goods will be sold either before or after the Sale at catalogue prices.

Customers within 30 miles will be allowed—
SINGLE FARE if Purchase exceeds - £1 10s
RETURN FARE do. do. - £3 0s
On production of Railway Ticket.

TELEGRAMS: "CARTER, STOCKTON-ON-TEES." TELEPHONE NO. 4,551.

CARTER & COMPANY,
SILK MERCERS, DRAPERS, COSTUMIERS, CARPET AND BEDDING WAREHOUSEMEN, AND FURNISHING UPHOLSTERERS,
STOCKTON-ON-TEES,
AND AT WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GALVANIZING.

HARDY & LONGFORD,

Having opened their NEW BRANCH, and having one of the largest Baths in the North, are now prepared to do

GALVANIZING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

The Baths being kept in CONSTANT READINESS, Orders will be proceeded with IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT at their

HARTLEPOOLS GALVANIZING WORKS,

HART WARREN,

HARTLEPOOL.

A QUIET CHAT.

Said Mrs Brown to Mrs Jones,
When sitting at their tea,
"I wish, just as a friend, you know,
That you would tell to me
How comes it, though your husband earns
A smaller wage than mine,
My house and home so squalid looks,
While yours does fairly shine?
I spend the money carefully,
One penny I don't waste,
And yet I cannot have a home
To suit my husband's taste."
"Well I," said Mrs Jones, "was once
Just placed the same as you,
Until a friend came in one day,
And placed before my view
A Price List from the "Eagle,"
From my mind she took a load,
And I paid a visit with her
To their Stores in Newport-road.
Their Prices quite astonished me,
I could scarce believe my eyes,
As the Goods were so superior,
I was taken by surprise.
I can't explain the reason well,
But still, through many a test,
The fact is clear, the "Eagle" Goods
Are the cheapest and the best.
Their Furniture beats all in town,
My statement I can prove;
Since they've given me a happy home,
I've strengthened my husband's love.

THE
EAGLE FURNISHING CO.,
COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS,
30, NEWPORT-ROAD, MIDDLESBROUGH.
CASH OR EASY TERMS.

HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES.

The following Tinctures and Pilules are kept in Stock. They are prepared by duly qualified Homœopathic Chemists, and the utmost and most scrupulous care is taken in their manufacture. The 1/- sizes are sold at 4½d; 6 for 2/6 post free; 12 for 4/9 post free. Single Bottles can be sent by post for 1½d per bot. extra.
USES OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICINES.
ACONITE.—Inflammation and fevers, colds, coughs, croup, rheumatism, gout.
ARICA.—Affections resulting from injuries, spitting of blood, bodily fatigue.
ARSENICUM.—Influenza, cold, asthma, diarrhœa, vomiting, skin complaints, neuralgia.
BELLADONNA.—Sore throat, headache, toothache, neuralgia, scarlet fever, erysipelas, whooping-cough, inflammation of the eyes, epileptic fits, convulsions. Bottles
BRYONIA.—Cough and cold on the chest, bilious headache, rheumatism, pleurisy.
CARBO VEG.—Flatulent distension of the stomach, acidity, heartburn, foul ulcers.
CHAMOMILLA.—Children's diarrhœa, difficult breathing, convulsions, earache. for
CHINA.—Intermittent fever, painless diarrhœa, loss of appetite, debility, night sweats. 4½D.
CINA.—Thread worms, wetting the bed, convulsions from worms.
COFFEA.—Sleeplessness, wakefulness of children, nervous excitement, nervous headache.
DROSERA.—Whooping cough, spasmodic cough, bleeding of the nose.
DULCAMARA.—Loose cough, cough and Six Bottles
diarrhœa from exposure to damp, nettle rash.
HEPARSULPH.—Croup, wheezing, breathing, hoarseness, gum and other boils.
IGNATIA.—Hysterical attacks, nervous for
headache, effects of fright, &c., sleeplessness.
IPECACUANHA.—Sickness, bilious headache, whooping cough, asthma.
MERCURIUS.—Offensive breath, decay, sore throat, swollen glands, mumps, biliousness. 2/2.
NUX VOMICA.—Indigestion, stomach cough, spasms, heartburn, constipation, piles.
PHOSPHORUS.—Loss of voice, hoarseness, dry cough, consumptive cough, brain fag. One Dozen
PODOPHYLLUM.—Biliousness, bilious headache, acidity, heartburn, constipation.
PULSATILLA.—Measles, indigestion, biliousness, sties, ailments of women, earache. for
RHUS TOX.—Rheumatism, lumbago, erysipelas, ringworm, sprains, chickenpox.
SPONGIA.—Croup, hollow barking cough, hoarseness. Derbyshire neck. 4/3.
SULPHUR.—Cold affections, itch and itching eruptions, boils, constipation, piles.
VERATRUM.—English and Asiatic cholera, griping diarrhœa, colic, cramps.
Orders by Post and Telephone (No. 8,173) receive prompt attention.

J. OSBORN AND COMPANY,
38, SUSSEX-STREET.

A WELL-KNOWN FACT THAT
SOPPET, 52, LINTHORPE-ROAD,
Has the Largest and Best STOCK of
WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, AND SILVER GOODS in the Town.

The most efficient staff of workmen in the North.
All work done on the premises. No Apprentices kept

DISEASED BONES *By the use of* CURED

CLAYTON'S PATENT BALM, useful in every household for Scalds, Sores, Rheumatism, &c. All Chemists, 1s 1½d, or 1s 9d post free from Clayton, Bonesetter, Malton, and 72, Albert-road, Middlesbrough.

GREAT SALE OF WINTER CLOTHING AT McDONALD & CO.'S.

THE WHOLE OF THE WINTER STOCK TO BE CLEARED.

SALE COMMENCES ON SATURDAY FIRST.

The following are a few of the many bargains to be had during the Sale:—

100 MEN'S OVERCOATS, with and without Capes, to be cleared from 12/11 to 25/-, reduced from 18/11 to 35/-.

70 YOUTHS' OVERCOATS, with and without Capes, clearance prices from 7/11 to 17/6.

200 BOYS' OVERCOATS and REEFERS will be sold from 2/11 to 10/6.

300 MEN'S STRONG TWEED SUITS, 12/11, 14/11, 17/11, 19/6, 21/-, worth from 5/- to 10/- a suit more.

500 MEN'S BLACK WORSTED AND SERGE SUITS will be sold from 13/6 to 30/-, usual prices from 19/11 to 40/-.

600 YOUTHS' BLACK WORSTED AND TWEED SUITS will be cleared from 7/11 to 21/6.

1,000 BOYS' SAILOR AND TWEED SUITS from 2/6 to 10/6.

PILES OF MEN'S, YOUTHS', AND BOYS' ODD JACKETS, ODD VESTS, AND ODD TROUSERS will be sold at half the usual price at

McDONALD & CO.'S,
SUSSEX HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.

S. DARBYSHIRE'S PURE TEA.

FINE,	THE	FINE,
FRAGRANT,	CUP	FRAGRANT,
FAULTLESS,	OF	FAULTLESS,
1/10.	HEALTH.	1/10.

48, LINTHORPE-ROAD,
MIDDLESBROUGH.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

71, Linthorpe-road, Middlesbrough.

ALEX. BANKS, Hosier, Glover, and Hatter, is now holding a Genuine Sale, in which great reductions have been made in order to clear out the stock previous to Alteration and Extension of Premises.

5

INDIGESTION.—The MEDICAL REFORM SOCIETY will send FREE to all applicants an excellent BOTANIC CURE for Indigestion, Biliousness Liver Complaints, and Piles. Address—The Secretary BOTANIC INSTITUTE, NOTTINGHAM.

CORD AND MADDISON, Quarry Owners, and Agricultural Engineers, Darlington, supply the Weardale Agricultural Lime. Lime for Building, Plastering, and Purifying Purposes. Every description of Road Material in Granite, Whinstone, Limestone and Slag, comprising Paving Sets, Road Metal, and Screenings for Footpaths. Asphalting and Concrete Work, Yorkshire Flags and Flag Blocking.
Sand and Loam. Brass and Metal Castings.
Ground Basic Slag.
Agricultural Implements and Machinery of Every Description.

VISIT TO MIDDLESBROUGH.
ESTABLISHED 1871.
LEEDS EYE AND EAR DISPENSARY, 68, GREAT GEORGE-STREET.
OPEN DAILY, 10 to 6.
MR G. MITCHELL, OCULIST AND AURIST.
ATTENDANCE AT
NORTH-EASTERN HOTEL, Darlington, Monday, Feb. 2.
BLACK LION HOTEL, Stockton, Wednesday, Feb. 11.
THREE TUNS HOTEL, Durham, Saturday, Jan. 31.
CORPORATION HOTEL, Middlesbrough, Saturday, Feb. 7.
BLACK SWAN HOTEL, Pickering, Monday, Feb. 16.
RAILWAY HOTEL, Northallerton, Wednesday, Feb. 4.
GOLDEN FLEECE HOTEL, Thirsk, Monday, Feb. 9.
Hours 11 to 4. Consultation free.
*** Urgent cases should write for printed form of questions to be answered. All letters to be addressed to Leeds.*
SPECIAL NOTICE.
MR MITCHELL takes this opportunity of stating that for seventeen years he has visited the principal towns in North Yorkshire and the County of Durham with the greatest success, as the following testimonials will show. No case is undertaken unless there be a reasonable hope of cure or benefit to the patient.
TESTIMONIALS.
John Tweart, of Longwitton-by-Morpeth, Northumberland, writes:—"I beg to thank you for your kindness to me in restoring my sight. After being twelve months unable to follow my employment, and during that time had the advice of no less than eight medical men, but received no benefit from their treatment, being recommended to place myself under your care, I am happy to state that, after being under your treatment for the short period of one month, I have quite recovered my sight, and am as good in health and eyesight as ever I was in my life."
MEDICAL TESTIMONY ON THE ABOVE CASES
DEAR SIR,—I am happy to state that your patient John Tweart, has now quite recovered his sight, and many thanks to you for the kindness you have shown to him. I hope he will let your treatment be well known through the country, as he has only you to thank, and you alone, for the recovery of his sight, so that he can once more follow his employment.—I am, yours truly, T. H. STORER, M.D., F.R.S., &c.
Whalton, Northumberland.
BLINDNESS, THE RESULT OF RHEUMATIC INFLAMMATION IN THE HEAD AND EYES, SUCCESSFULLY TREATED.
Mr J. Plastow, Fish Salesman, Fish Docks, Grimsby, writes, August 23rd, 1888:—"Having been blind thirteen weeks from rheumatic inflammation in the head and eyes, I was advised to apply to Mr Mitchell, Oculist and Aurist, of Leeds, and through the mild treatment given by him my sight is completely restored, and I can go about my business without the aid of glasses."
CURE OF DEAFNESS AND NOISES.
Mr E. Crawshaw, of Pike, Rishworth, near Halifax, writes:—"December 19, 1888.—I was a sufferer from deafness and noises in both ears for six months, but after having a course of your treatment (which is mild and easily applied) I am happy to say I was completly cured in five weeks."
"43, Musgrave-street, West Hartlepool, March 19, 1887.—Dear Sir,—I have great pleasure in informing you that your mode of treatment for deafness has quite cured me, and I can now hear as well as ever I could. —Yours faithfully, J. W. BROUGHTON."
Artificial Human Eyes fitted from £1. Spectacles and Eye Preservers adapted to defective vision.

HULL AND BARNSLEY IS OUR "A" STOCK No. 91.

HULL AND BARNSLEY IS OUR "A" STOCK No. 91.

It may surprise our opponents and please our friends to know that we have NOT been selling this Stock, as we have been accused of doing. The Stock that may seem to have been sold by us was bought at our orders through other channels, for the purpose of settling and completing agreements with the first subscribers to "A" Stock No. 91, with the view of reorganising our plan of procedure on a much larger scale.
We are large buyers, and only buyers. As a proof of this we bought the Hull and Barnsley Stock for a reasonable time, and do not allow your judgment to be warped by every idle tipster who has more words than money.
In October, 1887, we said we were large buyers, but were accused of selling stock that cost us about 30 when the price stood at about 23. These false attacks continued for about seven months, but at last the day of reckoning came, on December 7 and 8, when the price rapidly advanced to 42½, being 12½ points rise within the days. We have another story to perform, and we are sure we shall succeed, and that is to show that Hull and Barnsley is the cheapest Stock on the List, and its quality equal to any.
About £400 at present will buy and pay for £1,000 Stock. Buy of us and save commissions, or buy through other channels. We are forming one of the strongest "A" Stock combinations that have ever been done. We want about another £100,000 in cash, and from the present appearances we shall receive it. If we do, we shall exchange "A" Stock No. 91 with No. 93, for the sole purpose of buying Hull and Barnsley Stock.
Those having ready money at command should lose no time in communicating with us, for reasons stated last week.
Hull and Barnsley are absolutely worth £50. Buy at present, all that you can pay for, and take out of the market. Let us hear from you, and we will communicate something to you that will be very much to the shareholders' interest. Join our movement, and we shall take off the market about £500,000 worth of stock for our subscribers and ourselves, and for a large Bank in the future.
We have nothing whatever to gain directly out of this movement, except to see our words fully realised, and in casting our votes to conclude an arrangement that will make the Stock a good guaranteed investment by paying a satisfactory dividend.
Mark what we say! Hull and Barnsley are worth 50, and they are going there. All intending purchasers should lose no time in communicating with us. If anyone should doubt that we are bulls, let them call at our offices, and see the contract notes from day to day. Every £1 of this Stock purchased is for investment.

HULL AND BARNSLEY IS OUR "A" STOCK No. 91.

PARTICULARS AND TERMS will be contained in this week's MARKET REPORT, sent free on application to the
UNIVERSAL STOCK EXCHANGE, LIMITED, COCKSPUR-STREET, LONDON.

FEBRUARY SALE.

High-street and Finkle-street, Stockton-on-Tees.

MADAM,

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North-Eastern Daily Gazette.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 1891.

THE INDUSTRIAL OUTLOOK.

LOCALLY, the industrial outlook is a little less unsatisfactory than when we wrote last week on the relations between capital and labour. Mr Goschen has been in Yorkshire preaching the doctrine that if the commercial supremacy of Britain is to be maintained, capital and labour must be brought into more friendly and trustful association; and we gladly and gratefully note several indications of a growing recognition of this faith. The threatened evictions at Silksworth have been stayed, and the Marquis of Londonderry has consented to receive, albeit in the North of Ireland, a deputation of the men who are convinced that his lordship has during the past sad weeks been labouring under a misunderstanding as to the cause and object of the strike. We find it hard to believe that the Marquis of Londonderry would permit a deputation of his workmen to travel so far to see him unless he had some hope or wish to discover the fact of this misunderstanding and have it removed; and where there's a will there's a way. We sincerely wish the success of the mission, and anticipate with increased confidence a settlement which will restore the happy and mutually advantageous relations which have long been maintained between the owner of Wynyard and the various classes of workmen on his estates.

Again, with respect to the Cleveland miners, though the notices have been issued and received, negotiations for an arrangement are still in progress. The representatives of the employers and of the employed are to meet again next week, and we are doing them nothing but the barest justice when we say that they are both looking forward to the conference with an earnest desire that the disaster of a stoppage of work may be avoided. Probably it is now generally recognised that the miners made too small a concession to the masters' proposal for a 12½ per cent. reduction of wages when they proposed 2½ per cent. On that basis the employers found themselves unable to negotiate, and hence the issue of the notices became a necessity. We hope it may be found when the parties meet again next week that either the more reassuring aspects of trade or a greater willingness on the part of the men to compromise will furnish the common ground of settlement which was not discovered at the earlier conference. We refuse to believe a rumour that the employers will show themselves less pliable or accommodating as to terms than they were prepared to have been last week if the miners' representatives had not stopped negotiations by proposing 2½ per cent. as the limit of reduction. The employers will, we are sure, keep free from any irritation caused by the former disappointment, and will not seek to enforce a larger reduction than the state of the market seems to them to make an absolute necessity. Otherwise they will court mischief and disaster.

Then, as regards the black-mumacemen's strike, the pressure of public opinion and of trade interests is, if we correctly interpret the signs of the times, teaching both parties the need for a termination of the struggle. If the Lanarkshire men on strike are and have been suffering, they have been most chivalrously supported by working-men sympathisers, and the area and amount of this helpfulness seem to be extending rather than becoming limited. Obviously the resources which have hitherto sustained the men are far from being exhausted; though, perhaps, the desire for a restoration of peace and of employment may be increasing. But it is equally certain that the ironmasters, rich and comparatively independent though they be, are suffering too; and the extent of their losses is opening their minds to a keener realisation of the evil and the unwisdom of keeping open a running sore and of cutting themselves adrift from markets which are now being cultivated by competitors in the trade. This unfortunate dispute in which the Cleveland men have so generously and far-seeingly interested themselves has surely now reached the stage at which, if the parties themselves cannot effect a settlement, they should welcome arbitration; and we earnestly counsel a movement in this direction. Merchants who have interests both in Cleveland and Lanarkshire might with advantage and credit to themselves take the initiative in bringing about an agreement.

There is other and still more encouraging news from Scotland this morning. On lines not dissimilar from those indicated in the *Gazette* last week as marking out a possible and likely basis of compromise, the railway war has been brought to an end. The North British Railway Company have resolved to abandon all their prosecutions for breach of contract, and have promised to let connection with the strike prejudice none of the men in seeking reinstatement, or in the future when rearrangements of positions are being made. By these concessions the directors have practically admitted that they were not free from fault as regards the former conditions of service which brought about the strike. They have given a further guarantee of their intention and desire to establish friendly relations between themselves and the staff by arranging for an interview at an early date after the restoration of the lines to working order. If, therefore, the men have not gained all that they wished, or in the form they wished, they have secured substantial advantages, and they have acted wisely in accepting the manager's terms. They have practically established the shorter working day; and we shall be both surprised and disappointed if the directors at the forthcoming interview, combining generosity with a prudent and business-like regard for the true interests of the Company, do not make an honest endeavour to put the men in their service, as regards hours and wages, in a position of equality with the servants of the other great railway companies.

Unfortunately these improving conditions and prospects are being overshadowed by the apparent imminence of a greater industrial war than perhaps has ever yet been witnessed in this country. The intelligence the *Gazette* published yesterday gave warning of an outbreak of hostilities between the rival federations of capital and labour connected with the shipping trade, by which one million workmen will be affected, and the whole export and external trade, and to a large extent also the internal trade, of the country, will be paralysed. Last year the Shipping Federation was suddenly called into existence. It brought into union or amalgamation the shipowning firms, companies, and associations of the United Kingdom, its colonies, and dependancies for the purpose of affording protection and indemnity "in regard to stoppage, delay, or blocking of graving, arising from general or partial strikes, lock-outs, combinations, or disturbances of labour, such as desertions, refusal of duty on the part of officers, engineers, sailors, firemen, stovedores, dockers, trimmers, or other workmen." But the Federation is not merely defensive, it is also aggressive, in its action in the interests of what is called free as distinct from unionist labour. It maintains labour registries, and in several places it has already interfered for the purpose of protecting if not encouraging the employment of non-unionist labour. In October last the design was attributed to it by the *Times* of laying up the vessels of its members with the view of causing a lock-out of all Unionist workmen; but it was afterwards explained that the real plan of combat contemplated was to lay up only those vessels for which it was found to be temporarily impossible to obtain non-unionist crews. The unionists, representing the various classes of labour affected, naturally distrust and oppose a policy which seeks to fight and beat them in detail. Hence federation is being opposed to federation; and a most ruinous industrial war is now threatened. It is highly discouraging at this time of day to find the thoughts alike of capitalists and of workmen so fully occupied with designs and measures for their mutual hurt, and so little honest effort made on either side to maintain friendly relations and to safeguard mutual interests as well as the national trade. Much of the evil, it seems to us, is due to a short-sighted and inconsistent unwillingness to recognise trades unions. Embraced in the Shipping Federation are many capitalists who as shipbuilders and engineers employ only unionist men, and find it far more convenient and advantageous to have dealings with the officials of the unions than with the representatives of their workmen or of unorganised labour. As shipowners, however, or as railway directors, they appear to be inclined or compelled to follow a different and less advantageous course, and to refuse to have any dealings with unionism. They plead, of course, that they are opposed not to unions, but to the tyranny they exercise by refusing to permit the employment of non-unionist workmen. This objection, so far as it is sound and honest, is being rapidly removed, for all the hitherto unorganised classes and bodies of workmen connected with the shipping trade are being enrolled into unions, and if the policy of the trade unionists succeed it will soon be impossible for the shipowners to get any kind of competent or trustworthy service except from unionists. The aim of the Federation, therefore, though nominally directed against the so-called unionist tyranny, is really directed against the organisation of labour in its self-defence. It is not surprising that the different classes of workmen should combine in a policy of resistance and in a course of action which, while seeking the advancement of the material interests of the labourer, likewise strives to raise the dignity of labour, and to provide the shipping companies and the public with ever-increasingly intelligent and efficient service. At the same time, we sincerely hope that all these benefits will yet be gained without the terrible cost and disgrace of an industrial war on the gigantic scale which for the moment seems appallingly imminent.

At the meeting of the Middlesbrough School Board on Monday, some important business is to be transacted. One matter is the opening of the tenders for the erection of the Victoria-road Schools; and another subject is the appointment of a successor to Mr Todd, late clerk of the works in connection with the Grange-road Schools, now in course of erection. There are several candidates for the post, and it is to be hoped, in the interests of the ratepayers, that the appointment will be made upon the basis of merit. The sum at stake is a large one, and the schools themselves, when finished, should be an ornament to the town, while fitted to fulfil in the best possible manner the purposes for which they are designed. The clerk of the works adjusts any difference which may arise between the architect and the contractor; and it is to him that the public look to receive from the contractor their equivalent for the money paid. His duties therefore demand almost a special training; and a thorough knowledge of the building trade in all its departments is an essential. An acquaintance with merely one or even two branches of the contractor's work, coupled with total ignorance of all the rest, can hardly be considered as a recommendation for the post.

THE news of the death of Mr Bradlaugh, which we publish to-day, will be received with widespread, and, indeed, almost universal regret. Perhaps no Englishman of our time aroused or encountered more bitter antipathies than he. For many years he was dreaded as well as hated. But as a politician he slowly and surely overcame what were once the most violent personal prejudices; and he has died in the hour of the victory for which he longed most eagerly, and struggled most bravely. He was a Radical of Radicals, yet Mr W. H. Smith, the leader of the Tory party in the House of Commons, gave a graceful expression of his personal respect and regard by visiting his humble lodgings during his sickness. He was a Republican, and a relentless critic of the House of Brunswick, as of other Royal families, yet the Prince of Wales, honouring his sincerity and courage, sent him an assurance of sympathy during his illness. The man who during the greater part of his public life was ostracised not merely by fashionable society, but very generally by the industrial classes as well, compelled for himself before his death recognition as a great political force working for freedom and justice, and became an almost universal favourite. He had a troubled and even stormy career, but calm came to him before the end of his life, even although his political ideals were far from being realised. And now let him rest in peace.

THE Irish members of both sections have been conspicuous absentees this week, and their negligence on Wednesday, when a special opportunity presented itself of doing a good turn for certain victims of the Coercion laws, has been much commented on. Mr Parnell pointed out in his Waterford speech on Sunday that if the section of the Nationalist party who are opposed to him had followed his example, and had attended to their places last Friday night, the Government might and would have been def

THE PHANTOM PETITION; OR, SWORN TO SECRECY.

The gossip about the petition still goes on in the Parliamentary lobby, there is nothing tangible to lay hold of. All that can be gleaned is that "something is going to be done." What that something is remains as much a mystery as ever. Take the famous conspirators in the Gunpowder Plot, the Unionist committee has been sworn to secrecy." The oath has been administered, and the motto is, "Let not a sound or a whisper be heard." This air of mystery has had the effect of greatly increasing the public interest, and every unfortunate committeeman is now an object of the most profound curiosity. Whenever he is seen in the lobby his movements excite the liveliest interest. Directly he is met he may be said just now to be the cynosure of all observers," and when he stops to speak to another committeeman, as he sometimes does, everyone calls anxiously to learn the purport of the conversation, so certain is the feeling that the mystery about the phantom petition. There never was, never before been an instance of a body of respectable business men so injuring such a simple matter as to excite universal attention from their fellow-countrymen as has just been witnessed in the case of Mr Gray's election committee. They keep their counsel well however. They are as close as wax, and twice as hard to open. To every attempt to induce them to speak, the invariable reply, given with solemn emphasis, is, "Don't you know I can tell you nothing; we're sworn to secrecy." Meanwhile the correspondence in reference to the alleged intimidation by the Primrose goes merrily on. Mr Furness, M.P., writes as follows to Alderman Cameron on December 25:—"In writing your letter of yesterday you have evidently overlooked the fact that in the course of the 15th inst. you laid down who should investigate the charges; and that you should depart from that and now ask for a 'properly constituted tribunal' is most unsatisfactory. Surely upon calm reflection you must admit that the position you take up is untenable. I think you say that the correspondence upon this matter is getting somewhat tedious, and that you hope your letter will be final. This I quite believe, and I think the correspondence has justified the remarks in my letter of the 19th, in which I invited you to test your *bona-fides*. I have once more to refer you to the challenge contained in the letter of the 19th inst., also your acceptance of it on 20th inst." In a letter yesterday Colonel Cameron says:—"If we appointed arbitrators, and he found that intimidation had been practised, a decision by the authorities in a natural sequence of such finding. I therefore repeat I will only agree to an investigation by a proper legal tribunal." It is reported that Mr Howorth, M.P., is to visit Mr Hartlepool in order to consult with the Hartlepool party about the mysterious petition. As the matter is being kept up, people are beginning to recollect many of the tactics resorted to by the Government to ascertain if the writs join in conferring a reasonable reward on Dr Koch for the great service he has rendered to mankind. (Cheers and laughter.) Mr W H. Smith's reply evoked considerable amusement. He said he fully appreciated the spirit in which the question was asked, and to the least degree depreciating the great service offered to humanity by Dr. Koch. It is to be admitted that he did not stand alone in his patient and laborious investigation of the resources of nature for the benefit of mankind. (Cheers and laughter.) Such a fact met with evident appreciation. He did not think any doubt existed in the Government as to the propriety of finally add to the satisfaction they must feel as to the effects of his discovery throughout the civilised world. (Renewed laughter.) He therefore, he might be excused for coming to and another function to the responsible Government. (Renewed laughter

THE CRIMES ACT DISCUSSION.

Mr Balfour, replying to Mr Morley, named Monday for the discussion of the administration of the Crimes Act, provided the Tithes Act should be disposed of by Friday.

THE TITHES BILL.

The House resumed the Committee stage upon the Tithes Bill. The first amendment stood in the name of Mr. Hicks Beach, and dealt with the question of personal liability to and imprisonment for non-payment or owner in respect to the payment of tithes charge. In the course of a short speech Mr S. Evans (Glamorgan, Mid.), supported the object in view might be attained by the adoption of the words which made the amendment to the House applicable only to tithe rent and inserting others applying it to "all payable or recoverable under this Act." This proposal was accepted, and the amendment of Mr. Hicks Beach altered accordingly. It was eventually carried. Mr C. Grey Dodson proposed that the amount of tithe should be the excess over one-half, instead of two-thirds of the annual value. If this proposal were to prevail there would be a reduction in the first charge would confer a pecuniary interest of the owner in the property from which it was derived.—The Committee divided, when the amendment was rejected by 226 to 125.—Mr S. Evans moved an amendment providing that the annual value of the land should be ascertained by an Assessment Committee appointed by the County Council.—Sir Michael Hicks Beach opposed the amendment, which, after debate, was rejected by 162 against 94. The House was reported at twelve o'clock, the time being 2.5.

CARPETS, SHIRTS, AND GLOVES — Largest and largest stocks by Scotch, 20, Church-street, Middlesbrough.—ADVT.

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£3,000 RAISED AT A MEETING.

Mr Chamberlain, M.P., addressed a meeting in Birmingham Town Hall in support of the scheme of a new general hospital for the city of Birmingham. £100,000 will be required for the scheme, and at the meeting promises of gifts to the amount of £75,000 were announced. The members of the Birmingham Wholesale Brewers' Association alone added £5,000 of that amount.

AN OCTOGENARIAN BURNED TO DEATH.

A shocking burning accident which occurred at Preston terminated fatally yesterday. An octogenarian named Mrs Betty Fielding, of Brookhouse, was found with her clothes on fire in the kitchen of her house, and, though the flames were speedily extinguished with water, she was so fearfully burnt about the right side of the body that she succumbed to the effects of her injuries.

DEATH OF MR C. BRADLAUGH, M.P.

Mr C. Bradlaugh, M.P., the junior member for Northampton, died at 6.30 this morning from uræmia. Mr Bradlaugh, who had been in feeble health for some months past, owing to pressure of work and over-anxiety, coupled with a sad domestic bereavement, was attacked a few weeks ago with cardiac asthma of so serious a type that it was feared from the first that he would not get over it, and despite the best medical skill he passed away quietly and peaceably. Mr Bradlaugh's illness, though for some time serious, did not take an alarming turn until Friday morning last, when he passed a night of pain and sleeplessness. He recovered somewhat during the following day and dictated two letters, but in the evening he grew worse, and Dr. Bell was summoned. He found that a blood vessel had given way in the head, causing grave complications in the patient's condition. Next morning Dr. Bristowe, Mr Bradlaugh's colleague on the Vaccination Commission was summoned, and he made a careful and complete examination of the patient. He said there was a bare chance that the ruptured blood vessel might heal, and that appeared to take place during Saturday and Sunday, and on Monday Dr. Ramskill and Mr Bell reported favourably on Mr Bradlaugh's case. On Tuesday, however, his condition was again worse, and the heart's action became feebler, on which he gradually sank.

Charles Bradlaugh, one of the most remarkable men on the stage of recent politics, was born of poor parents in London in 1833, and educated at elementary schools at the East End. In his youth, it is said, he was brought under religious influences, and was for some time a Sunday School teacher. His was a strange and a strenuous career. He started out in life as an errend boy and coal dealer, in 1850 we find him enlisting in the 7th Dragoon Guards, and on obtaining his discharge three years after he became a solicitor's clerk. At this period his life was a constant struggle against difficulties. Discarding the Christian religion, which could never have had a very strong hold on him, he became an exponent of Free Thought, and under the pseudonym of "Iconoclast" (image-breaker) he wrote regularly for the Investigator. Afterwards, which was founded in the advocacy of his principles, and which at the present day obtains a wide circulation. In this journal and also in the *freethinker* the orthodoxy of the Christian Church was attacked with relentless bitterness and merciless exposure of alleged fallacy, and at length Mr Bradlaugh came to be recognised as the leader of aggressive hostility to religious belief in general, and the Christian belief in particular. As a Radical lecturer he was in great demand; and he went about preaching his religion of Free Thought everywhere, and often at great personal risk to himself. He was also connected with the struggle for Italian independence; he was on terms of intimacy with many of the leaders of the Fenian movement in 1867; and he played a prominent part in the agitation which led up to the Hyde Park meetings and the passing of the Reform Bill of 1866. In 1868 he was prosecuted for his articles in the *National Reformer* by the Attorney-General, but successfully defended himself. His collaboration with Mrs Besant in the propagation of Malthusian principles has also remained a matter of bitter indignation which the publication of the work aroused. This man, with his daring opinions, his trenchant pen, and his power of effective oratory, represented a large body of opinion in England politically as well as philosophically, could not but make one goal the House of Commons. Accordingly we find that, previous to his election for Northampton in 1880, he had made many previous attempts to enter the English Senate House. He was returned in conjunction with Mr Labouchere, and as he was well known to entertain objections to taking the oath which implied a belief in Christianity, the greatest curiosity was felt as to the course he would pursue when he entered the Commons Chamber. In his late struggles with the law he had fought that point over and over again, not unfrequently to his own cost, but now he was about to enter the lists against the indefensible forces of English opinion and custom which had obtained from the days of the Witenagemote. Mr. Bradlaugh made no attempt to be sworn in with the general body of the members, but on May 3rd, 1880, he was seen walking up the floor of the House with them. There was an ominous stillness and all the indications that something unusual was going to take place. The new member went to the table and handed a paper to the Chief Clerk stating his wish to be allowed to make an affirmation instead of taking the oath in the usual manner. This he claimed the right to do under the Parliamentary Oaths Act. The Speaker threw himself upon the judgment of the House, and Lord Frederick Cavendish rose and moved the appointment of a Select Committee to enquire into the case. From the very first the question was destined to be a torment to the Government all through their career, and to be the cause of several severe Ministerial defeats. The first reverse was on the question of the nomination of the Committee, the Government proposing a list of fifteen names to which they refused to appeal to the electors again after taking office, and who perhaps might not be re-elected. However, the Committee was appointed and decided against Mr Bradlaugh, though only by the casting vote of the Chairman, Mr Walpole. Then Mr Bradlaugh had a new surprise for his enemies. On May 21 the same scene occurred as on May 3rd. Mr Bradlaugh walked up to the table, and demanded to be allowed to take the oath. But Sir Henry Wolff interposed between Mr Bradlaugh and the table of the House. He insisted that the House ought to refuse to accept Mr Bradlaugh's oath. The position was perplexing. The Committee had said he ought not to affirm; the Opposition said he ought not to be allowed to take the oath; what was to be done? The best brains in the House of Commons could devise was to suggest the formation of a new committee to consider the problem; and this Committee after much deliberation, came to the conclusion that Mr Bradlaugh could not be allowed to swear, but that it would not be a bad thing to let him affirm as the taking of the legal obligations, and the Labouchere accordingly moved on June 21st that Mr Bradlaugh be allowed to affirm. His resolution was supported by the Prime Minister, Mr Gladstone, but was rejected on June 22nd by 275 votes to 230. The following day saw Mr Bradlaugh in the House of Commons presenting himself at the table to be sworn. The Speaker informed him of the resolution of the House, and called on him to withdraw. He, however, claimed to be heard at the bar of the House, and made an eloquent speech in vindication of his position. At its conclusion he was asked to withdraw. The reply of Mr Bradlaugh was: "I respectfully refuse to obey the order of the House which is against the law." The vote of the House was taken, and by 326 to 38 Mr Bradlaugh's withdrawal was decided on. The hon. member refused to exclude himself, and the Speaker and the Sergeant-at-Arms eventually took him into custody, and lodged him in the Clock Tower. The House, however, was in a false position. They had got Mr Bradlaugh under lock and key, but they could not keep him so. He was not in the least likely to abandon the position he had taken up, and his claim was one which excited a great deal of sympathy, not only throughout the country, but in the House itself. Eventually the House came back to the original resolution, and allowed Mr Bradlaugh to affirm at his own legal risk, and for a session Northampton was practically fully represented. Three times during the dispute had Mr Bradlaugh resigned his seat and been re-elected, the first occasion being in April, 1881. On being expelled from the House, he was again elected in March, 1882. On February 11th, 1884, he voted in the House, and on being excluded appealed from the Chiltern Hundreds, and was again elected, but did not take his seat before the dissolution. An action was brought by Mr Newdigate, M.P., against him to recover heavy penalties for having sat and voted without taking the oath. A two years' litigation followed, Mr Bradlaugh losing on the Courts below, and gaining his appeal in the House of Lords. The Government, however, had not the like success with an Affirmation Bill which they introduced, for it was defeated by three votes. At the general election of 1886 Mr Bradlaugh was again returned for Northampton. This time he found himself in a House which took no cognisance of his atheistical opinions, and when Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, in obedience to the bigotry of his followers, rose to intervene upon Mr Bradlaugh's going to the table, he was promptly suppressed by the Speaker, and the junior member for Northampton took his seat. In the new Parliament he was instrumental in securing the adoption of an amended Affirmation Bill, and only this week the House of Commons has done him the tardy justice to expunge from its journals the resolutions of June, 1880, by which he could not affirm, but was allowed to affirm or to take the oath. The position of the House in the matter was quite untenable, and the opposition had been all through of a personal nature.

Having secured his seat in the House, Mr Bradlaugh soon obtained recognition as a practical politician. He was instrumental in causing the establishment of a Department of Labour, the appointment of a Royal Commission on market rights and tolls, and the passing of a Truck Act. It was he who persuaded a Select Committee to recommend the abolition of hereditary offices. The abuses of the pension list found in him a persistent and unrelenting enemy, and on all questions in the interests of the democracy he was a recognized authority and leader. In his Parliamentary work he displayed a sound judgment and a thorough mastery of every subject he took in hand, whilst his ready command of language always ensured for him the ear of the House. When in 1886 a Select Committee was appointed to enquire into the alleged corruption by the City Corporation in promoting opposition to Sir Wm. Har. court's London Government Bill, Mr Bradlaugh conducted the case in support of the charge. In short, the very men who once refused to keep him out of Parliament now admit that he was one of its most useful members, and this feeling found expression in 1888, when he was presented with a testimonial of over £2,000, principally subscribed for by members of the House of Commons, the idea being to enable him to some extent for the heavy loss he had sustained in the law courts. To sum up, Mr Bradlaugh's whole life is a remarkable illustration of what industry, perseverance, and resolution, when they are united to natural ability, can do; and in his death the House of Commons, and, indeed, the country, has sustained a great loss.

The news was received at Northampton with general expression of regret, and on receipt of Mrs Bradlaugh Bonner's telegram announcing the sad event numerous messages of condolence were dispatched by individuals of all classes. It was also the general topic of conversation at all the London political clubs this morning, and the regret which was expressed was intensified by the belief that Mr Bradlaugh never sufficiently recovered consciousness to receive the news that the House of Commons had expunged the resolution of 1880.

MAKING REPARATION.

In obedience to the direction given by the resolution of the House of Commons of Tuesday last, "Parliamentary Oath (Mr Bradlaugh)," the Clerk of the House has passed an ink line through the resolution of the House of the 22nd of June, 1880—"That, having regard to the reports and proceedings of two Select Committees appointed by this House, Mr Bradlaugh be not permitted to take the oath or make the affirmation mentioned in the Statute 29 Vic. c. 19, and the 31 and 32 Vic., c. 72"—which occurs on p. 234 of Vol. 135 of the Commons Journal, and placed over against that paragraph upon the margin of the page, the following entry:—"Expunged pursuant to Resolution of the House, 27th January, 1891. (Signed REGINALD F. D. PALGRAVE, Cl: Ho: Com." The Clerk of the House has also addressed letters to the librarian of the British Museum, the Bodleian, the University Library of Cambridge, the Advocate's Library, Edinburgh, and Trinity College, Dublin, requesting them to note that proceeding upon the copy of the Commons Journal in their libraries. In the case of Mr Wilkes the resolution was expunged from the manuscript copy of the Journal.

A CLERGYMAN'S TRIBUTE.

At a public meeting last night in Morpeth Town Hall, in connection with the Morpeth Women's Liberal Association, Mrs Phillips, wife of the member for Mid-Lanark, delivered an address upon "Some Much-needed Reforms," especially free and technical education. The Rev. H. J. Bulkeley, M.A., rector of the parish, presided.—The Chairman expressed his sympathy with Mr Bradlaugh in his serious illness. Ten years ago it was almost dangerous to utter a word in support of Mr Bradlaugh and his political contentions. Now all parties would gladly rescind the resolution that was passed to keep him out of the House of Commons. Everyone now was ready to admit that Mr Bradlaugh's political life had been useful and independent. He had left the House himself had shown his sympathy with the member for Northampton. Such a change of opinion and sentiment within ten years showed a very marked stride forward in true Liberal principles. (Cheers.)

DEATH AT A BANQUET.

A Central News telegram from New York says that Mr Windom, Secretary of the Treasury, suddenly fell dead of heart disease just as he had concluded a speech at a banquet last night.

A MONTH'S SHIPBUILDING IN SUNDERLAND

There have been launched at Sunderland during January three steamers of an aggregate tonnage of 6,222 tons. This is a considerable falling off on the corresponding month of last year.

SHOCKING SCENE AT A SHOW.

The cattle show at the Palais D'Industrie, Paris, was thrown into commotion yesterday by an infuriated bull. The animal carried among the spectators, among whom was Marie Favel, a fan maker. The bull's rage was exerted upon the unfortunate girl, and she was so ser ously injured that she died.

FRAUD BY A LANCASHIRE JEWELLER.

At Preston to-day Robert Scanlan, jeweller, was charged on remand with uttering forged bank-marked chains purporting to be gold.—The evidence given showed that prisoner had pawned albert chains at various places, and sold others as gold, and all bearing the Birmingham Assay Hall mark. After passing through several hands suspicions were roused, the chains were accordingly tested, and found to be base.—Prisoner was committed for trial at the Lancaster Assizes.

THE SHOCKING CASE OF BABY FARMING.

At the Lambeth Police Court to-day Alice Reeves was charged on remand with wilfully neglecting eight children entrusted to her care at Loughborough, London. Since the first hearing three of the children have died, and accused was in respect of two charged with manslaughter. Further evidence as to the arrest having been given by the police, prisoner called Dr. Cahill, of Camberwell, and her son and daughter to prove that the children were properly attended. She was then committed for trial.

WARNING TO MINERS.

The following warning was issued last night:—The barometer has been very variable the last few days. The fall in the pressure is reduced 50lb. on the square foot. The greatest storms may be expected or falls will occur. Use props and sprags very freely. Look out for sudden irruptes of gas, especially in the neighbourhood of old workings, cracks, fissures in the face, floor, or roof. See that a thorough ventilation is maintained. Let all doors and brattice-cloths be in good order and properly attended to. Let all lamps be in good condition and locked before giving out. Should gas be found do not fire it, but fix the danger signal and at once report it. Beware of coal dust. Use safety lights and no shot firing for the next three days.

THE SCOTCH RAILWAY STRIKE.

The Scotch railway strike is practically at an end. At a mass meeting of railway strikers belonging to Thornton and Burntisland, held at Kirkcaldy last night, it was agreed to resume work today, the company having promised to give the men their former places. The North British strikers held a meeting in Edinburgh last evening, and resolved to accept the terms offered by the company and to resume work to-day. Reports from Carlisle, Glasgow, and other centres also indicate that the men are returning to work. It appears that the strikers were discouraged by numerous defections and the improved working of the railways. At a mass meeting yesterday Mr Harford said he felt disappointed that they had had to continue the strike, which might have been settled in six hours, for six weeks. At a meeting of railway strikers held at Hamilton last night a telegram was received from Mr Tait intimating that arrangements were being opened up with the railway companies. The announcement took the meeting by surprise. But it was evidently not unwelcome, though the men at Hamilton had never once wavered during the struggle.

This morning, in accordance with the terms of agreement come to with Mr Walker, manager of the North British Railway, the men on strike returned to work in Edinburgh. The men who assembled at the head offices, where they are being re-engaged, and sent to their former positions so far as they have not already been filled up. A considerable number will be left out of employment in the meantime. The Caledonian men to the number of 1,500 still remain out.

Three Greenock railway men, charged with obstructing the police and rioting, were each sentenced to sixty days' imprisonment to-day.

A MARKET AND PUBLIC OFFICES DESTROYED.

DOCUMENTS BURNED.

Shortly after eleven o'clock on Wednesday night a fire of an extensive character occurred on the premises of the Goole Market Hall Company, which resulted in the total destruction of one of the most prominent blocks of buildings in the town. The premises comprise a large hall, covered with strong iron-work and glass, and supported by stout iron pillars, and on each side it is flanked by rows of shops. The fire broke out in one of the tradesmen's shops immediately underneath the Board-room of the Local Board. The flames rapidly spread to the adjoining shops, and thence to the large hall, the roof of which was soon in a blaze. Within a few minutes the Board-room of the Local Board, which contained valuable records, documents, &c., relating to the affairs of the town, was enveloped in the flames, and in turn the surveyor's office and the offices of the nuisance inspector and Medical Officer of Health were demolished. The fire extended in a westerly direction, and rapidly consumed the contents of the office of the Humber Steamship Company. When the flames reached the rooms of the Lodge of Freemasons, little time elapsed before the fames pierced the roof. In about three-quarters of an hour the roof had fallen in, and the building was completely gutted. The brigade worked hard, but all they could do was to save the adjoining property, and when the fire was subdued there was nothing left standing but the bare walls of the front building, and in the basement was deposited a large quantity of burnt material, which smouldered for a considerable time. The damage is partly covered by insurance. A new Market Hall will have to be built for the town.

A BOON TO STOCKTON.—Never before was Stockton so electrified as now. Since Herr Cohen, the inventor of the Curative Coil Battery, made his appearance scores of households are cheered through the medium of a testimonial to the wonderful power of applying electricity in cases of rheumatism, sciatica, neuralgia, headache, nervousness, indigestion, depression, backache, weak circulation, and general debility. Without exception this remedy has been proved to be the most simple and lasting method of relieving pain and suffering. This latest invention might truly be called the "Little Doctor," because it relieves neuralgia in a moment; nervous headache with one application, rheumatic pains in the joints in about five minutes, to the surprise of everybody, and only those know it who have used it.—"January 15th, 1891. Dear Sir,—I purchased one of your Batteries when at Rotherham, and may say that I am quite satisfied with my purchase, and would not be without it for twice the amount. I quite cured my wife of enlarged veins. The Battery has also been round about the neighbourhood for various other ailments, one in particular—a man who had a slight stroke of paralysis, on whom the doctor used it, and he was working again in a fortnight.—Yours respectfully, ARTHUR STOKES." —The above battery may be had of Herr Cohen at the Temperance Hall, Dovecot street, Stockton. Hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; 7 to 8.—ADVT.

The distinct clothing can be washed in luke warm water with very little rubbing, and Clothes Bedding, and Linen cleansed without either Scalding or Boiling by using "SUNLIGHT SOAP," to be with the result of all.—ADVT.

SEAMEN AND THE SHIPPING FEDERATION.

THE STRIKE BEGINS.

The strike of tugboat men has now fairly commenced at Liverpool, the owners being determined to enforce their demand that the men shall leave their union. At a meeting of the men to-day it was reported that two crews of union men had been engaged. Arrangements were made to picket the stations, landing stage, and docks to intercept imported men. Mr Wilson, of the Sailors' Union, is in Liverpool taking an active part in the struggle.

ONE HUNDRED PERSONS KILLED BY A STORM.

A telegram from Rome states that Massowah has been visited by a terrible storm. The rain fell in torrents, and a number of dwellings were carried away by the floods. The damage done is enormous, and a hundred deaths are reported.

THE APPALLING COLLIERY CATASTROPHE.

Ninety-two of the victims of the Mount Pleasant Colliery disaster have been buried in the Roman Catholic cemetery at Mammoth (U.S.). A drenching rain fell during the ceremony, which took place in the presence of a thousand of the relatives and friends of the deceased. The remains were laid in two trenches, each 200 feet long and six feet deep. One hundred and ten bodies have now been recovered from the mine, and the search is still being continued. Whether others are missing is hard to learn, as many of the miners were foreigners, almost unknown in the neighbourhood. The Pennsylvania Legislature will appoint a committee to enquire into the cause of the catastrophe and decide what measures of relief may be necessary.

AN IMPORTANT LICENSING APPEAL.

The House of Lords began to-day the hearing of Sharp *v.* Wakefield, which raised the question as to the right of justices at their discretion to refuse the renewal of licenses. The Kendal Quarter Sessions refused to renew the license of the Low Bridge Inn, Kentmere, Westmoreland, on the ground that the house was unnecessary, having regard to the wants of the neighbourhood. An appeal was taken, and both the Queen's Bench Division and the Court of Appeal agreed in thinking that the Kendal Justices were competent to entertain the objection upon which the license was withheld.—Mr Collins, Q.C., opened the case for the appellants, and stated that though short the question was one of great importance. He maintained the justices had no such power.—Lord Herschell: Your contention would prevent the justices refusing the license, however the character of the neighbourhood had changed?—Mr Collins contended that the whole tendency of legislation had been that the person who once got possession of a license occupied an entirely different position from a new applicant, and that the renewal was a mere matter of right, unless some objection, entirely personal to the holder, could be made and sustained. Where no such objection was sustained the Justices had no discretion, whatever their views as to wants of neighbourhood.

A MATRIMONIAL EDITOR'S BREACH OF PROMISE.

The Knowles-Duncan appeal case was further heard at the Appeal Court to-day.—Mr Willis continued his argument for plaintiff. He urged that if their lordships considered the conduct of defendant—Duncan—after promising to marry Miss Knowles, they would not say that the damages given against Duncan were excessive. Mr Willis in reviewing the evidence referred to the fact that when Mr Duncan failed to respond to the repeated requests of Miss Knowles to him to carry out his promise, and had written by solicitors, he wrote saying he was already father of seven children, and was not going to increase the number. Miss Knowles replied that he had told her that he had no children, but she renewed her pleadings of attachment. Duncan wrote again saying he had seven illegitimate children—five by five different ladies and two by one lady. (Laughter.)—Mr Willis: Do not laugh, please. This shows the character of the man.—The Master of the Rolls: And she consented to dine with him next day?—Mr Willis: The defendant had her completely under his control. She was broken down and deceived by him. The Master of the Rolls asked if the £10,000 damages had been paid.—Mr Willis said an execution was put in defendant's houses, but all the furniture had been removed, having been purchased by Duncan's wife. — The Solicitor - General said that all the defendant's property was realised, and it amounted to £6,500.

THE CLEVELAND MINERS—A PLEA AGAINST WAGE REDUCTIONS.

(To the Editor of the North-Eastern Daily Gazette.)

SIR,—I hope you will make it convenient to insert the following in your valuable paper anent the proposed reduction in the Cleveland miners' wages. The employers say that they have to study their own interests as well as the men's interests by adopting some means whereby the trade of the district can best be maintained. This, they say, can only be brought about by reducing the miners' wages. Now, the question we have to consider is, will the trade of the district be best served by us miners accepting a reduction in our wages. I say not, as it will only allow the masters to continue in their mad career of competition, and at the same time to delude the market with a superfluous stock which will bring down the prices, and then they will come to us again for relief. Now I do not think that would be right, as it will be the means of placing ourselves in the power of wild speculation and eventually reduce our wages down to starvation prices. The proper course for the masters to take would be to reduce the make of iron, and thereby keep up the price, so that they would be able to obtain a fair profit, and at the same time pay the miner a fair day's pay for the day's labour, and not have to look to us to contend with. Whilst admitting that the trade at the present time is not so brisk as we should like to see it, I don't think that it has a bad outlook at present, and the probability is that there will be a general improvement in the iron trade. Just carefully consider the matter I have come to the conclusion that there is no necessity for a reduction in our wages. While admitting that the situation is a trying one, it would take some time and trouble to convince me that we ought to submit to any reduction whatever, and, as before stated, I don't think the interests of the trade will be best served by accepting a reduction in our wage at the present time. If the masters find themselves in such straitened circumstances why don't they apply to the men who derive the most benefit from the Cleveland mines, and who have nothing to lose. I mean the landlords. I think that they ought to do something towards keeping the trade in the district, seeing that they derive so much benefit therefrom without incurring any risk. That the demand for iron is larger every year is clearly shown by the increased make of iron, and as regards prices the recent ascertainments already shows that the masters have had no cause to complain up to that date; then why should the miners be called upon to suffer a reduction in their wages before the masters themselves have felt the effects of any fall that may have taken place in the selling price of iron. Can it be possible that they are playing into the hands of the Scotch ironmasters; when we have frequently been told that it would be a blessing to this district if those large stocks held in Scotland could only be done away with; so that the Scotchmen would not have the means of ruining the trade here, and thereby regulating our wages? If so is to be hoped that the masters will be able to see their way clear not to persist in their demaud, and thereby avoid the disastrous effects which stoppage of work would have on the trade of this district.

A MINER.

A JEHU'S STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE FROM MIDDLESBROUGH.—During the present week the chief topic of conversation amongst the cab-drivers of Middlesbrough has been the strange disappearance of one of their number. It appears that a man, a stranger to the town, was engaged to drive a cab for Mr Mills, cab proprietor. All went well on the Monday, but on Tuesday he disappeared, as did also the horse and cab, and various conjectures were made as to what he could have done with them. No clue was obtained until Wednesday, when a gentleman who had been by train to Saltburn was told of the affair, and he at once gave his informant some light on the matter by telling him that while the train in which he had just travelled was passing the reclaimed land on the north side of the railway past Eston Grange Station he had noticed a cab with the horse's harness on the box, but the horse was not to be seen. Steps were at once taken to ascertain if the cab was the one which had been lost, and this was found to be so, while the horse was found grazing not far away. The whereabouts of the driver is still a mystery.

TOOTHACHE.—Bunter's Nervine cures Toothache instantly by painless constriction of the nerve, prevents decay, and saves extraction. Neuralgia, headaches and all nerve pains removed. Sleepless nights prevented by using Bunter's Nervine. Sold by all Chemists, 1s. 1½d.—ADVT.

KEEP THE DOCTOR OFF.—Buy R. A. Watson's Lambs' Wool Drawers, Vests, and Cardigan Jackets cheapest and best. Stockton or South Bank.—ADVT.

MANY PEOPLE ARE DECEIVED into buying adulterated soaps because they do not look to see that the Registered Trade Mark "SUNLIGHT SOAP" is on the Wrapper and Tablet. "SUNLIGHT SOAP" is guaranteed pure.—ADVT.

The Editor of the *Medical Annual*, after a careful examination of CADBURY'S Cocoa, pronounces it to be both a food and a beverage of the highest quality. —ADVT.

Choice Picture Mouldings at Garrard's, 19, Corporation-rd., M'bro. Regilding equal to new.—ADVT

Cowley's Presentation Clocks, Bronzes, Silver and Silver-plate, Cutlery Canteens, all of the Newest designs. 151, High-street, Stockton.—ADVT

This Day's Commercial News.

The Anglo-Australian Investment, Finance, and Land Company, Limited (of Sydney), with an authorised capital of £2,000,000, announce an issue of £500,000 £5 per cent. registered debentures at par. The operations of the Company were commenced when the population of Sydney was but little over 200,000, and it is now estimated at 400,000. The value of real estate in the city and its immediate vicinity has made even greater strides, and the investments of the Company have been of a most successful character. The dividends paid to the shareholders have been as follows —In 1882, 12½ per cent. per annum; 1883, 12½; 1884, 12½; 1885, 17½; 1886, 25; 1887, 15; 1888, 15; 1889, 15; 1890, 15. The security offered to the debenture holders are the total assets of the Company, which amount to £1,760,000, subject only to the moneys owing by the Company on mortgage of the freehold properties of the Company—viz., £324,750, which, deducted from the assets, leaves £1,011,210 as the security for £350,000 debentures. The assets of the Company consist of freehold properties valued in June last at £856,250. Moneys lent on mortgage by the Company, £287,400. Uncalled capital, £354,076 (of which £159,750 is on shares issued in London, and undivided profits, £2,486.

To-day we publish in our advertising columns the prospectus of the Baltimore Belt Railroad Company, which is issuing some 100 year 5 per cent. gold bonds, with interest guaranteed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. The present issue is of $5,000,000 in 5 per cent. first mortgage 100 year gold bonds of $1,000 each, payable to bearer or registered. The remaining $1,000,000 to be issued only if and when the future development of the Company demands. The interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum will be payable in New York on the 1st May and 1st November in each year, the first coupon being due on the 1st May, 1891. Principal and interest are payable in gold without deductions for United States Government Tax; the principal matures on 1st November, 1990, and is not redeemable before that date. Application will be made for a quotation for the bonds on the London, New York, and Baltimore Stock Exchanges. The bonds are a first mortgage upon the railroad, franchises, branches, and equipment owned by the said Company, or that may hereafter be acquired, subject only to $1,000,000 which will be issued to-day, and closed on or before the 25th February 1891. Allotments will be made as soon as possible after the closing of the subscription list.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.

11.20 a.m.

Money not much in demand at 1 per cent.; discount rates for three months 11 to 12 per cent.; very little doing either in bills or money. Consols and rupee paper quiet. Home railways firm, American dollar, and Grand Trunk and Mexican unchanged. Foreign bonds irregular. Mines steady. Nevertheless, the principal changes since closing last night are as—Home railways: South-Western ½. North-Western and North British Def. ¼. Great Eastern, Great Northern and Barnsley ½. Great Western, Great Western, and Midland ¾ up. American railways: Milwaukee and Lake Shore ½. Illinois Central, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, and Chicago ¼. Canadian Pacific, Erie, Lake Shore, Louisville, Kansas and Texas, Union Pacific, and Wabash Pref. ¼. Canadian Pacific, Denver, Ontario, Norfolk Pref. and Pennsylvania ¼ up. Foreign bonds: Brazilian 4's ¼, and Turkish 7's ¼. Italian and Portuguese ¼ up. Uruguay and Argentine '86's ¼. Spanish ¼ down. Mines: Mason ¼ up.

1.10 p.m.

Consols dull; full money ⅛ account ⅛. Rupee paper ⅛. Bar silver 45 and 45/8 ⅛. Home railways firm; rise: Metropolitan District ½, Caledonian Def. ½, Do. Ordinary, South-eastern Def. ¼. North Eastern ¼, East London, Chatham ½, Midland, North British Def. ¼, American railways; rise: Kansas and Texas ¾; fall: Northern Pacific Pref. ¼, Milwaukee, Denver, Ontario, Norfolk Pref., Reading, Union Pacific ½; Grand Trunk Second Pref. ¼, Guaranteed ½, Third Pref. ¼. Mexican railways weak; fall: Ordinary, Second Pref. ½, First Pref. ¾. Foreign bonds: Argentine Scrip, Uruguay 5's and 6's ¼, Spanish ¾, Unified ¾; fall: Cedulas ¼. Mines lower; fall: Mason, Tharsis ¼, Tinto ½. Nitrates dull; fall: Railway ¼.

RAILWAY DIVIDEND.

The accounts of the Great Northern Railway Company indicate that a dividend may be declared at the rate of £5 per cent. per annum, giving for past half year £3 to original stock. £3 to B stock, and £3 to A stock.

CLEVELAND IRON.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

The iron market is quiet to-day, and the improvement which might have been expected to attend the further reduction in the Bank rate, the virtual termination of the Scotch railway strike, and the threatened difficulties with miners in our own district has not made its appearance. The price of No. 3 is lower to-day than it has been all the week. Middlesbrough warrants have been sold at 41/6 cash, and sellers' price is put at 41/7 cash. Merchants quote 42/- put prompt f.o.b. deliveries of No. 3 G.M.B., but when warrants can be obtained at so much less buyers will not pay the figure, and 41/9 is the most they will give. A lower price than that of to-day has not been reported since the Scotch blast-furnacemen's strike began. Makers are not asking or taking so little as 42/-. The enquiry for forward delivery, which was better in the early part of the week, has subsided, but if the milder weather continues a greater demand is likely to be reported on Continental account early next month. Grey forge, which is in better request for Scotland as well as for local consumption, is kept at 41/-, and this is at last only the normal difference below No. 3. The finished iron trade is quiet, and prices are maintained. Common iron bars are £5 15/-; best bars, £6 5/-; best best bars, £7 5/-; iron ship angles, £5 12 6; engineering angles, £5 15/-; iron ship plates, £5 15/-; boiler plates, £6 5/-, all less 2½ per cent. discount for cash on 10th of month following delivery. Steel ship plates are £6 2/6 to £6 5/-, and steel ship angles £5 5/-, both less 2½ per cent. Basil-furnace coke a little easier, but still 15/6 for best qualities delivered here can be secured.

GLASGOW PIG IRON.

Steady. Moderate business done at 46.3 to 46.5 cash, 46/6 to 46/7½ one month; closing buyers 46/7½ cash, 46/6 one month; sellers 1d more. Middlesbrough done at 41/6 cash; closing buyers same cash, 41/8 one month; sellers 41/7 cash, 41/10 one month. Hematite done at 51/9 cash; closing buyers 51/10 cash, 52/- one month; sellers 51/11 cash, 52/1½ one month.

(CLOSING REPORT.)

Steady. Small business done at 46.3¼, and 46.4¼ cash, 46/7 and 46/7½ one month; closing buyers 46/4 cash, 46/6 one month; sellers as middle. Middlesbrough done at 41/6 cash; closing buyers 41/7½ cash, 41/9 one month; sellers 41/8 cash, 41/10 one month. Hematite done at 52/1½, 51/9½, and 51/10½ one month; closing buyers 51/7 cash, 51/9 one month; sellers 51/9 cash, 51/10 one month.

LONDON METALS.

Opening metals: Copper, £52 12/6 to £52 17/6 cash, £52 17/6 to £53 7/6 three months. Tin, £90 7/6 to £90 15/- cash, £90 15/- to £91 7/6 three months; Australian, £90 10/- to £91 cash. English lead, £12 15/- to £12 17/6; foreign, £12 10/- to £12 12/6. Spelter £23 5/-; business done. Copper, moderate trade, £52 17/6 and £52 15/- middle buyers and sellers. Second half March, £53 and £52 17/6 early April, £53 2/6 three months; with sellers over the lowest price. Tin fair business, cash and early dates 15/- to £90 17/6 three months, £91, further quantities offering at £90 10/- and £90 17/6 respectively.

NEWCASTLE FREIGHT.

Freight market quiet for outward steamers, but with good demand for tonnage. Homeward freights steady, both from India and the Black Sea.

CHIPS.

No fewer than 1,173 persons have been buried in Westminster Abbey.

The daily surplus of births over deaths in the United Kingdom is fifteen hundred souls.

A schoolgirl, a plumber, and a railway signalman received certificates of "distinction" at a recent Oxford University examination.

Edison engages women to recite verse, sing ditties, and talk nonsense into his phonographic dolls.

The daily provision for a full-grown elephant at the "Zoo." is calculated by Mr Bartlett at 150lb. altogether in weight, consisting of hay and straw, roots, rice, bread and biscuits.

New machines for packing matches have recently been introduced into Scandinavia. One of these, the invention of two young Norwegian engineers, has a capacity of 1,000 boxes per minute.

The Khatta or Karna orange of Upper India produces two kinds of fruit on the same tree and on the same branch—namely, the regular crop of smooth oranges, ripe at the end of the dry season, and the after-crop of grossly-warted oranges, ripe at the beginning of the rains.

We are now able to tell, approximately, what the late spell of severe weather has cost the metropolis in lives lost. Frost, snow, and fog have carried off about 2,950 victims in the six weeks. It was a curious circumstance that during the same period zymotic diseases were less fatal than usual.

The "Muggletonians" are so called from Ludowic Muggleton, a tailor, born about the year 1641, and died in 1697. He and John Reeve affirm that God the Father, leaving the government of Heaven to Elias, came down and suffered death in human form. They also asserted that they were the two witnesses of God.

The cheapest railway travelling in Europe is the journey from Buda-Pesth to Kronstadt, in Hungary, a distance of 457 miles, for which the fare, third-class, is six and eightpence (6s 8d), or at the rate of six miles a penny. Cheap as this is, it is further liable to a reduction of one-half in the case of agricultural labourers journeying in parties of ten, or workmen of other kinds in groups of thirty.

The Stevenson-road is a thoroughfare from Lake Nyassa to Lake Tanganyika, made almost entirely by native labour. Professor Drummond, in his book on "Tropical Africa," says: "These savages handled their tools to such purpose that, with only a single European superintendent, they have made a road full of difficult cuttings and gradients which would not disgrace a railway contractor at home. The workmen keep regular hours—six in the morning till five at night, with a rest at midday—work steadily, continuously, willingly, and, above all, merrily."

The progress of languages spoken by the different nations is said to be as follows: English, which at the commencement of the century was spoken by only 22,000,000 of people, is now spoken by 100,000,000. Russian is now spoken by 69,000,000, against 30,000,000 at the beginning of the century. In 1801 German was spoken by only 35,000,000 of people; to-day over 70,000,000 talk in the same language that William II. does. Spanish is now used by 44,000,000 of people, against 30,000,000 in 1800; Italian by 32,000,000 instead of 18,000,000; Portuguese by 13,000,000 instead of 8,000,000. In the case of French, the increase has been from 34,000,000 to 46,000,000, or 36 per cent.

The Earl of Wemyss is a tall, rather elegantly-made man, who has assuaged the ravages of age by the subtle resources of art, and with Lord John Manners sustained the traditionary graces of a past dandyism. Even now, when loaded with the trappings and responsibilities of an earldom, his lordship, in common with the Duke of Rutland himself, still bears an enviable suggestiveness of middle age at seventy-three. He must have seen something of Beau Brummel, and joined at least in the fading glories of the Pump Room of history's Bath. Yet both the noble Earl and the noble Duke are still able, not only to button their own collars, but even to tie the latchets of their shoes.

Dr. Todhunter, the great mathematician, was very chary of his praise, and any student at Cambridge University who succeeded in gaining a word of commendation from Dr. Todhunter must have richly deserved it. On one occasion the worthy doctor propounded a formidable problem to the class for solution. The question was an abstruse one, and all the members of the class, with the exception of one, gave it up in despair. This man, whom we will call Taylor, stuck to the question manfully, and at length succeeded in obtaining the correct solution. Taylor duly handed in his work to the doctor, amid the interest of his classmates, who felt certain that he would receive some meed of praise for his unexpected solution. Dr. Todhunter went carefully through it, giving vent to an occasional "Hm! yes." On reaching the end he turned to Taylor and said, "Don't you think you had better dot that i?" A roar of laughter burst from the class, and "Dot your i" was a standing joke for a long time afterwards.

When Ellen Terry was a little girl about eleven years of age she belonged to Mrs Charles Kean's company at the Princess's. She was one evening acting *Puck* in the "Midsummer Night's Dream," and had to come up through the stage floor on a trap-door, standing on a mushroom. The trap-door was shut too soon, and one of her feet was caught. She screamed with pain, and her sister Kate, then acting *Titania*, ran to her and threw her arms round her. Still the child continued to scream, and Mrs Charles Kean, seeing what was wrong, came on the stage, and struck with her heel for the trap door to be opened. The man naturally mistook the signal, and shut it tighter, and the child's screams redoubled. Mrs Kean whispered to her, "Be a brave girl, Nellie, and finish your part, and you shall play *Arthur* in 'King John.'" The trap-door was by this time opened, but the little girl's toe was broken. She finished her speech, however, though she fainted when she got off the stage. Later on she played the part of *Prince Arthur*.

Mr John Hampden—descendant of the real John Hampden—one of our leading "cranks," is dead. He was occupied all his life in trying to demolish the law of gravitation, and in proving that the earth was flat. His opinion was that the earth was like a big round table. He had a map of it, with the North Pole in the centre and the South Pole distributing itself in unexplored arctic regions all round the edge of the table. If you asked Mr Hampden how one could sail round the earth he pointed to his table, surrounded by the sea. He was pestered with questions about what was beyond his South Pole, and what did the flat earth rest on? But he was an enthusiastic controversialist, and answered them all. He issued a challenge once, and backed it with money. A committee of scientific men took it up, and experiments with the object of proving that the earth was an oblate spheroid were carried out in a canal in Bedfordshire. Mr Hampden lost his money, but stuck to his opinions. Mr Hampden lived in Croydon.

Henrik Ibsen, of whose works so much has recently been written, is of a roving disposition. He has not been in his native country but twice since 1866. He has been in Rome, Paris, Suez, Dresden, and other places, and is now living in Munich. He lives with his family on the second floor of 32, Maximilian-strasse, and occupies six rooms. His habits are regular. He rises at seven in the winter and eight in the summer. He takes a long time to dress himself, but the time is not lost, as he is meditating all the while on his work. After breakfast he works from nine to one. After lunch he takes an hour's walk in the streets. His striking figure is well known to the inhabitants. He takes another spell of work—reading or writing—and then dinner. After that he goes to the Maximilian Café to drink, and read the newspapers. He goes to bed early. His life is quiet and retired. He never accepts any invitation to the theatre or elsewhere, and makes no calls. In summer he spends some time at Gossensatz, in the Tyrol mountains, the principal street in which is named after him, Ibsen-platz. He works best in winter. He labours industriously at his MS.—revising and correcting it several times before he sends it to the printer. He is never ill. Notwithstanding his success, and the enthusiasm of the Ibsenists, Ibsen is not rich. His works just keep him comfortably, and he is very economical. He has one son, Sigurd Ibsen, who was born in 1859. He is a professor of law at the University of Rome. He chose a diplomatic career, and served five years at Vienna and Washington. He is going to publish his first book this year. It is a political work in which he advocates a purely commercial union between Norway and Sweden. It is thought that he intends to enter political life.

QUIPS AND CRANKS.

Teacher: "Define quartz." Milkman's son (absently): "Pint and a half."

As pitiable a sight as could well be conceived is a woman loyally trying to believe in her husband when her instincts teach her that he is a fraud.

"Who is happy on this mundane sphere?" sneeringly exclaimed Pessimus. "The girl with her first engagement ring," triumphantly replied Optimus.

He (at the football game): "Do you know what a 'muff' is, sweet?" She (blushing): "Why, of course I do. It is something your hands can meet in."

Auntie: "Who is that man? I've noticed him staring at me several times." Niece: "Oh, he's only Professor Raker, who's writing a book about the antiquities of the town."

It has become the fashion for some foolish young men to tattoo the name of their sweetheart on the right arm. It does not hurt the sweetheart, but if one of these foolish youths should ever marry some other girl, wouldn't there be fun?

"George," she said, "before we were married you were always giving me presents. Why don't you ever bring me anything now?" "My dear," replied George, "did you ever hear of a fisherman giving bait to a fish he had caught?" Then the kettle boiled over.

"It is no use telling you to look pleasant," said the photographer to the pretty young lady as he prepared to unmask his camera, "for you cannot look anything else than pleasant." And this observation so pleased her that she smiled all over, and the picture was a great success.

American Novelist of the Realistic School: "Well, Maria, there isn't a penny in the house, and as for writing, why, I haven't an idea in my head." Maria: "Goodness gracious, Edward, then don't wait a minute. Sit right down and turn out a novel; you'll take the country by storm, and make your fortune."

Professor: "I again call your attention to the too common use of trite expressions. Mr Quills, can you not find a fit substitute for the well-worn phrase, 'he died a natural death?'" Mr Quills (about to graduate as managing city editorial correspondent-in-chief): "Well, sir, I suggest, 'he died without medical aid.' How would that do?" Professor: "It is excellent, Mr Quills."

NOT TO BE SAT ON.

"Don't sit down there!" screamed Mrs Pittypat, as Mr Merryfat, her cousin from the country, prepared to squat on a small bundle of clothes on the parlour sofa; "that's the baby!" "Lor', Maria," remarked John, as he slid for a chair; "I thought it wor one o' them bustles!"

MAKING HOME ATTRACTIVE.

"I don't see why I can't keep my husband at home," said a distressed little woman. "Why don't you try to make home attractive to him?" "I have. I've taken up the parlour carpet, sprinkled sawdust on the floor, and put a beer keg in the room, but some way or other it doesn't seem to make any difference."

A CONFUSION OF TERMS.

Stupid man: "I've hired a new typewriter." Wife (coldly): "Indeed!" Stupid Man (enthusiastically): "Yes, a daisy. One of the kind you can take anywhere with you, and hold on your lap, and——" (Conemaugh of tears.) Stupid Man (an hour later): "But, my dear, it's a machine, not a girl.'

THEN AND NOW.

Farmer Roots: "I dunno but we'd better kill old Roan to-morrow. The hoss hain't wuth his keep, an'——" Bill Roots (rushing in): "The train has just knocked old Roan offen the track and broke his neck!" Farmer Roots (one day later in the office of the auditor of P.D.Q. Railroad): "Wal, I reckon $350 would be about right fer that thar hoss o' mine you killed. Jest fix year old last grass, and trotted a mile in 2.50 less'n six months ago. Didn't he, Bill?" Bill: "You bet."

THEIR SENTIMENTS.

Scene: A hotel office. Characters: Mr Miggs, of Michigan, and Mr Diggs, of Delaware, chance acquaintances.)—Miggs: "You are quite right, sir. The saloon is everywhere the worst enemy civilisation has to contend with. The question how to regulate the liquor traffic is a great one, a difficult one to solve." Diggs: "And yet it must be solved, for the hellish business is demoralising the whole people. I realise this, although I am not as yet a strict prohibitionist." Miggs: "I am not, either. It is one thing to take a glass of beer occasionally and another thing to——" Diggs: "Will you——" Miggs: "I was just going to ask you." (Three hours later) Diggs: "Well, goo' ni', m'frien'." Miggs: "Goo' ni', ol' fellow!"

AN INSULTING NOTICE.

"Is this the water office?" he loudly demanded, as he entered the door. "Yes, sir," humbly replied the clerk at the nearest window. "Well, sir, I have received at insulting notice, and I have called to ask for an explanation." "An insulting notice?" "Yes, sir! If it was sent out from here, and I suppose it was, somebody ought to be ashamed of himself. I'll find it in a minute. Ah! here it is. Can you explain this, sir?" The clerk received the paper and took a long look at it; then he showed it to two other clerks, and they took a long look and smiled. "Well?" demanded the irate citizen. "This notice did not come from this office, sir." "It didn't? I beg your pardon, sir, but it came direct. You can read, can't you?" "Yes, sir." "Well, what does it say?" "It says that unless you pay your hired girl the $12 due her, suit will be instituted for the recovery of the same." "——! but I—I gave you the wrong paper! Give me that back! I've got the other here somewhere. Let's see. I know I had it—I can't have lost it! Well, never mind. I'll be passing again in a day or two and drop in."

A TOO-WILLING YOUNG MAN.

"Do you love me as dearly as men have ever loved women?" said Mabel, finding an easy anchorage for her cheek about the latitude of his upper vest pocket and the longitude of his left shoulder. "More," said George, with waning enthusiasm, for this was about the twenty-fourth encore to which he had responded since eight o'clock. "More, far more dearly. Oh! ever so much more." "Would you," she went on, and there was a tremulous impressiveness in her voice that warned the young man that something important was coming—"would you be willing to work and wait for me, as Jacob waited for Rachel, seven long years?" "Seven!" he cried, in a burst of genuine devotion—"seven! Ay, gladly. Yes, and more. Let's make it seventy, anyhow, and prove my devotion." Somehow or other he was alone when he left the parlour a few minutes later, and it looks now as though he would have to wait seven hundred years before he saves fuel by toasting his toes at the grate in that parlour again.

WHY HE'S A DOUBTER.

"Fine day." This was the remark addressed by the man who was waiting for a street car to the lank individual leaning against a lamp-post. "Um—so-so," replied the lank party, after taking a leisurely survey of the sky. "If the wind keeps blowing in this direction for twenty-four hours longer there will be rain," ventured the first speaker. "Um—I'm not so sure about that," said the other, cautiously. "The wind, at least, is dead south now." "Um—perhaps." "It certainly isn't north." The lean individual pursed up his lips, as if about to whistle, looked at the sky again, shook his head slowly, and said:—"I'm not so blamed certain it isn't." "At any rate, sir, it isn't raining now, is it? Hey?" Another careful examination of the firmament and the cautious remark:—"It may be raining and it may not. You can't always tell about these things." "Great Johosephat! Can't you see there isn't a cloud in the sky?" "Um—likely enough. Likely enough. It may appear that way to some folks. But it's best not to be too sure." "May appear that way? Why, good gracious, man! Haven't you got any eyes?" "Maybe I have and maybe I haven't," retorted the attenuated individual, passing his hand over his face as if to find out. "All that I know is, that there's nothing certain in this world. You think there's a fair ground out at the end of this street, perhaps?" "I certainly do." "Just so. I was certain of it yesterday myself. I was certain that there was a man out there with two or three walnut shells he was moving about on the head of a barrel. I was certain I could tell which shell the little black ball was under. I was just as certain of it as you are that it isn't raining. It cost me every darned cent I had to find out that I didn't know anything about it. I am not going to be sure of anything again as long as I live." He took a plug of tobacco from his pocket, looked at it as if he were not sure whether it was tobacco or not, put it back in his pocket, sighed a long, heavy dismal sigh, and looked straight through the other man into the far-off depth of space.

READING FOR LADIES.

Braiding is the fashion of the season. Every week the patterns become more intricate, and the work seems better done.

Miss Helen Gould, the only daughter of Jay Gould, owns the rarest private collection of orchids in America, and is an accomplished botanist.

Of all the novel hose the most unique is the rose leaf, made by threading rose petals on a pink cord. Violets and other field flowers are treated the same way.

Marriages are still on the increase. Sir Brydges Henniker's report for the completed year 1889 shows that the number of weddings was 213,865, the rate being 14·7 persons married per 1,000 of the population. This was the highest ratio since 1884.

A new figure introduced into the cotillon is to have the gentlemen armed with toy foils, spiked with buttons in the shape of powder puffs covered with powder, and to have them fence a bit with their partners before the waltz.

Lady Margaret Cecil, youngest daughter of the Countess of Derby, is a total abstainer. A room has been set apart in the earl's house in which she holds temperance meetings for the benefit of the servants and others.

Women cooks are taking the place of men *chefs* in many wealthy people's houses. A first-class woman cook will be content with a salary exactly half that paid to her male brother of the ladle. A *chef* expects at least two hundred a year and perquisites, and they are twice as extravagant as women in the kitchen.

An American lady, Mrs Salter, the Mayoress of a Western city, has during the past year administered all the public affairs of the municipality she governs, attended all social functions incumbent upon her office, performed her own housework, washing, ironing, and cooking for a family of five, and increased her family from five to six, all in one year!

Mr and Mrs Cornwallis West last week celebrated at Newlands the "coming out" of their eldest daughter, who is to be presented at one of the early Drawing-rooms this season, and who threatens to rival in looks even the remarkable beauty of her beautiful mother.

It is gratifying to learn from *Irish Society* that a start has been made in the direction of extending women's industry by the making of handspun linen. In Westmoreland upwards of eighty ladies are engaged in this business, the handspun article being highly in demand for decorative art needlework.

As regards bodices—always such an important item—there is no diminution of the plentiful draping that has been the fashion since last spring. This refers, of course, to evening and reception toilettes; tailor-made gowns are still rigorously plain.

Garters appear to be occupying the feminine mind of America just now; the most *recherché* pattern has for a clasp a five-barred gate and an enamelled medallion containing a portrait. Favourite gifts this season have been specimens of these useful articles adorned with diamond buckles or clasps of gold and silver. The popular hue is electric blue or golden yellow.

The rumours anent the revival of the "patch" of our grandmothers are unfounded. Fair Parisiennes have, it is true, revived what is an imitation of *la mouche;* but it is simply a small dot on the chin, or at the outside corner of the eye, made with a crayon; and while it occasionally serves to enhance the beauty of a dimple, or to intensify the charm of a smile, it more frequently looks as if the morning ablution had been imperfectly performed.

The colours of the moment would seem to be grey, maize, every tone of green, light and dark, and a wide gamut of heliotrope, and curious and vivid amalgamations of tints are being employed—light peach and tilleul, light blue and old pink, brown and yellow, and others, linings of a colour which do not assert themselves too much being the dominant idea. Bouquets are to be universally carried.

We have reached the first stage of the "tying back" arrangement of our skirts. The revival of what I once heard a distinguished writer call the "celskin" style of gown has for some time threatened. Even before the "improver" was banished it was whispered that tight skirts were imminent. Now they are surely coming into vogue again. At present fashion fixes the limit of "tying back" to that point at which it becomes perceptible that tapes have been called into requisition.

The latest thing in weddings is to have the room in which the bridal party are served with the wedding breakfast decorated with a ceiling of real roses, from the petals of which flash electric lights in rose-coloured globes, and to have upon the table a tower of roses in which is hung a chime of bells. A golden cord extends from each bell to the different ladies, and between the courses wedding chimes are sweetly sounded.

I heard of a very wonderful baby's trousseau—the trousseau, not the baby—the other day. The basket was of plain white straw, lined with quilted silk embroidered with the monogram of the infant's respective parents. The small ivory-backed brush, puff-box, &c., were also variously inscribed with the monogram in turquoises and small diamonds. Each tiny shirt was of woven silk, and all the long clothes of pure linen, trimmed with insertions of Valenciennes lace. Every small flannel garment was hand-embroidered with daisies and stars in floss silk; the round light caps were knitted in Shetland wool; and 100 pure gold pins lay in a silver box ready to be run into baby at the first opportunity!

The marriage of the Hon Corisande Guest, daughter of Lord and Lady Wimborne, to Lord Rodney, was solemnised on Saturday morning at St. James's Church, Piccadilly, in the presence of a large and aristocratic gathering. The wedding differed from most events of the kind in that there were no floral decorations in the church and no cards with the hymns printed for the use of the guests. The bride looked very pretty, the lights from the stained glass windows glinting in varied colour on the silver with which her Court train was brocaded. The bridesmaids' charming costumes of white with artistic touches of turquoise blue, and the red tunics, glittering helmets, and effective-looking accoutrements of the tall Guardsmen who lined the aisle made a charming combination. Lady Wimborne's gown of very dark moss-green velvet, with a band of chinchilla round the skirt and half train, and with the high collar and cuffs outlined with similar soft grey fur, looked most distinguished, and made an exquisite harmony with the great posy of Blenheim orchids shaded from pale mauve to that shade which hovers between pink and mauve, and is called Persian lilac. Lady Wimborne wore a bonnet to match her dress outlined with chinchilla and a long folded fichu of soft creamy lisse on the bodice. Her ornaments were a single diamond lace pin and single-stone diamond earrings.

Appended is the description of a dress made for the Czarina. It was composed of a short train, corsage, and high Medici collar in stamped velvet. The pattern in relief was of a cold, pearl grey, and the ground of a pinkish grey, of a tender hue which, however, will have its full value in electric light. The front part of the skirt followed in hue the grey of the velvet flowers, and was trimmed in diagonal curves, with five rows of pink and grey ruches of cut silk. Between the ruches there were bunches of the finest silver thread, looking like thistle-down. The upper part of the body had a square cut aperture filled in with pink silk, on which silver braid was vertically applied all over. The stomacher and dorsal peak were outlined with a triple cord of pink silk, grey silk, and silver, ending in tassels, which repeated the thistle-down effect. You perhaps are not aware that since Grille d'Egout has been introduced in a play that is having a furore, to give dancing lessons to Mdlle. Réjane, the wrong side of the dress skirt has assumed far greater importance than the right side. You have no idea of the task that is lavished on *les dessous*, and eke the lace and ribbons. No bonbonnière or flower-basket could be done up with more dainty luxury. The grey dress of the Czarina had inside the skirts, from the knees down, six rows of fully-gathered Valenciennes lace, enlivened with alternate *flots* of pink and pearl-grey narrow ribbon. The *flot* is made by arranging a ribbon in a quantity of falling loops all held together. It appears that the Empress of All the Russias—she being an indefatigable waltzer—is delighted with the *dessous de robe à la Réjane*. The actress thinks all the inner frilling and be-ribboning *très decent*. No matter how elevated the toe, the "clocks" of the stockings are kept invisible.

NEW STORY!

WHOSE WAS THE HAND?

By MRS BRADDON, Author of "Lady Audley's Secret," "Like and Unlike," "The Day Will Come," &c.

SYNOPSIS OF OPENING CHAPTERS.

Robert Hatrell and his wife, well-to-do people, with an only daughter, Daisy, nine years old, are established in a country residence in Buckinghamshire, a cottage which they had made into a mansion by additions and alterations. At the same time enters Mr Hatrell is jubilant because his neighbour Florestan is about to sell him some land which will improve Mr Hatrell's property and give it the amount of ground which it needs as a gentleman's residence. One other character is introduced in Chapter I., viz.—Ambrose Arden, a widower, with one little boy, now at school, who is acting as Daisy's tutor in her French and other studies. Arden has warned Hatrell to beware of Claudio Morel, a black-bearded Frenchman, with whose sister Antoinette Hatrell was once entangled. Hatrell, however, broke off the connection before he had incriminated himself with the girl, and, sending her £100 as a solatium for any disappointment at his loss, left the country. Then came his marriage and settlement in Buckinghamshire, during which time Morel lost sight of him, but recently he found out the whereabouts of his sister's former lover, and determined to make capital out of the bygone incident.

CHAPTER III.

BEFORE THE CORONER.

In the *Evening Standard* of Wednesday, July 7th, 1872, appeared the following:—

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE.—Much anxiety is being felt by the family and friends of Mr Robert Hatrell, of River Lawn, Lamford, near Henley, who has been missing since last Monday afternoon. He left the Union Bank, Cocksparr-street, at three o'clock on that day, in company with a friend, intending to walk to Lincoln's Inn Fields; but he was accosted in Cranbourn-street by a middle-aged woman of genteel appearance, whom he accompanied in the direction of Greek-street, after taking leave of his friend. He had in his possession a parcel of Bank of England notes to the amount of some thousands, and it is greatly feared that he has been made away with on account of this money. The police have been on the alert since yesterday morning, but up to a late hour last night no discovery had been made.

* * * * * * *

The following notice appeared in the *Times* on July 8:—

DREADFUL MURDER IN DENMARK-STREET, BLOOMSBURY.—The mystery of Mr Hatrel's disappearance has been solved, and the worst fears of his family and friends are only too fatally realised. On the 30th ult. a foreigner, of respectable appearance, representing himself as a journeyman watchmaker, employed at Mr Walker's, Cornhill, took a second floor back bed-room at No. 49, Denmark-street, paying a week's rent in advance. He appeared to be a person of orderly and sober habits. He was out of doors all day, and he went in and out morning and evening without attracting any notice from his fellow-lodgers. He walked upon himself, and always locked his door before going out; there was, therefore, no curiosity excited by the fact that the room remained closed during the whole of last Tuesday, and although no one had seen the lodger in question it was supposed that he had gone out at the usual hour in the morning and let himself in at the door in the evening. The house was in the occupation of three different families—the first floor being occupied by a working tailor, and the front room used as a workshop for three or four men. The foreigner, who gave the name of Saqui, and represented himself as a French Swiss, from the Department of the Jura, had been accommodated with a latch key. It was only at six o'clock yesterday morning, when the landlady knocked at the door of the second floor back, with the intention of asking her lodger to leave his room open in order that she might clean it during his absence, that suspicion was first aroused. His hour for leaving the house was supposed to be about seven, and not being able to obtain any reply at six, she concluded that he had been out all night, and proceeded to enquire of the other lodgers when he had been last seen, she herself not having seen him since Monday morning—when he passed her in the passage at a quarter-past seven on his way out. No one remembered having seen him or heard any movement in his room since Monday afternoon, when one of the men in the tailor's workshop had seen him pass the first floor landing on his way down stairs. Suspicions were now aroused, the door was broken open, and a terrible spectacle met the view of those who entered the room. A man was found lying on the floor, stabbed through the heart. The body was surrounded by the bedclothing, which had been stripped off the bed and spread about the room so as to absorb the blood that flowed from the wound. Death must have been instantaneous. The deceased was a man of powerful build, whom few antagonists would have cared to attack single-handed. His pockets had been rifled, but his clothing was not otherwise disturbed, and identification followed almost immediately upon the tidings of the murder being conveyed to Scotland Yard.

Mr Hatrell had drawn a considerable sum of money out of the bank, and was on his way to his lawyer in Lincoln's Inn Fields to complete the purchase of an estate at the time he was decoyed to Denmark-street.

The police are actively engaged in the pursuit of the murderer, and are said to be already in possession of an important clue. A reward of five hundred pounds has been offered by the family of the deceased.

* * * * * * *

At the inquest Colonel Macdonald stated that he was a friend of Hatrell's, and was in his company up to the time of his disappearance, three days previous to the discovery of the murder. They left the Union Bank, Cocksparr-street, at three o'clock on that day, intending to walk to Lincoln's Inn Fields; but Hatrell was accosted in Cranbourn-street by a middle-aged woman of genteel appearance.

"This person" (who was evidently a Frenchwoman, and who conversed in that language), said Colonel Macdonald, "spoke of some person who was very ill, in a dying state, and who wanted to see Hatrell. The woman seemed to be pleading for this dying person. I heard the name Antoinette repeated two or three times in the course of the conversation. He told me that he felt himself obliged to go with this woman to see someone—an old acquaintance. 'It is an urgent case—sickness—destitution.' I reminded him of the large sum of money on his person, and asked him if the woman was known to him. He told me that she was—indirectly. She was nearly related to the person he was going to see, who was an old acquaintance.

"There was one thing which I observed on my way toward Chancery-lane which, it has since occurred to me, might have some bearing upon my poor friend's fate. As I passed a six-all Italian coffee-house a few doors from the spot at which Hatrell and I parted I noticed a man standing in the doorway, looking down the street in the direction of Cranbourn-alley, and it seemed to me, on after consideration, that he was standing there for a purpose, on the watch for some transaction in the street. He had a more intent look than a casual idler would have had. I crossed the road almost immediately after I observed this man, and I dawdled a little on my way to St. Martin's-lane, looking at one or two shops. As I waited at the corner of Castle-street and Leicester-place, a hansom passed close by me, and I recognised the man being driven in it as the same man I had seen at the door of the café."

"Should you know the man if you were to see him again?" asked the Coroner.

"I'm afraid not. It was the expression of his face that struck me—not the face itself. He had a keen, eager look, like a man in a desperate hurry. The cabman was driving very fast, the wheel almost grazed me as the cab shot round the corner."

"Is what direction was the cab going?"

"Towards St. Giles' Church."

"That would be in the direction of Denmark-street, would it not?"

"Yes. It is the way to Denmark-street. I walked over the ground this morning."

A member of the firm of solicitors in Lincoln's Inn Fields gave evidence as to the appointment made by the deceased for the payment of the purchase-money, £3,865, and the execution of the conveyance. This witness described the arrival of Colonel Macdonald, with the message from the deceased, and the surprise that was felt at Mr Hatrell's non-arrival, it being known to the firm that he was a man of punctual and business-like habits, and particularly anxious to pass into possession of the property in question.

The Bank clerk who cashed Mr Hatrell's cheque deposed to the amounts and numbers of the notes, and stated that the police were already in possession of these numbers, and on the alert to discover any attempt that might be made to dispose of the notes either in England or on the Continent.

Mrs Moore, the landlady of the house in Denmark-street, described the appearance and characteristics of the foreigner who engaged her second-floor back bed-room on the Thursday preceding the murder.

"He was a very civil-spoken man. He looked quite the gentleman. He spoke English like a foreigner, and I believe he was a Frenchman. His way of talk was quite different from a German gentleman, in the tailoring, who occupies my first floor. I should certainly have put him down as a Frenchman, and he told me he was a French Swiss, from the neighbourhood of Neuchatel, and that he worked for Mr Walker, of Cornhill. I couldn't have wished for a more respectable lodger. He offered me a week's rent in advance as he was a stranger, and I did not hesitate about taking him."

"Were you at home on the day of the murder?" asked the Coroner.

"Yes, all indoors all that day."

"Yet you did not see or hear the deceased come into the house?"

"I was in my back kitchen most of the day doing my weekly wash."

"Could you not hear people go in or out of the street door when you were in the back kitchen?"

"Yes, I could hear them going along the passage and up stairs, but I was very busy with my wash, and I didn't take much notice."

"Should you know your lodger if you were to see him again?"

"I could swear to him anywhere."

John Smallman, journeyman tailor, deposed to having seen the Frenchman go down stairs sometime on Monday afternoon. He took notice of the fact, as on Friday and Saturday the man had been out all day—and was supposed to be in constant employment in the watch-making trade. He laughed, and told one of his mates that the Frenchman had been keeping St. Monday. He could not say the precise time at which he had seen the man pass the landing, but he knew that it was sometime after four, and that the church clock hard by had not struck five. He generally went out for his tea when St. Giles's Church clock struck five.

"Had you or any of your mates struck up an intimacy with this Frenchman—had you got into conversation with him upon any occasion?" asked the coroner.

"Not us. He was a very close party, and seemed to think himself a good bit above the rest of the lodgers. He'd only been in the house a few days before the murder."

"Did none of you see him after that Monday afternoon?"

"None of us. I don't believe he ever entered the house after he left it that time."

A cabman, who had come forward of his own accord, deposed to having driven a man from Cranbourne-street to the corner of Denmark-street about four o'clock on the afternoon of the murder. The man hailed him from the pavement in front of an Italian coffee shop. He told him to drive as fast as he could go, and he should have double fare. He did drive fast, getting over the distance in about five minutes, and the man gave him a florin. He got out at the corner of the street nearest the church. Witness stopped to see where he went, and he saw him enter a house on the right hand side of the street, which he had since identified as the house where the murder was committed. Witness believed that he would be able to recognise the man in question. He was a dark-complexioned man, between thirty and forty, rather a good-looking man, and he looked like a foreigner, French or Italian, most likely Italian.

There were other witnesses examined, and the inquest was adjourned for a week, the usual order being given for the burial of the deceased in accordance with the desire of his friends.

The adjourned enquiry evolved very little additional information. Much of the original evidence was repeated, but no new facts had been discovered relative to the murderer, except Mr Walker's repudiation of any knowledge of such a man's existance. No man of that name had ever been employed in Mr Walker's workshops in Cornhill. The police had up to this time totally failed in their efforts to trace either the missing man or any of the missing notes. The murder must have been discovered until a day and a half after it had been done, the murderer had had ample time to cross the Channel before the police were on his track. He would probably endeavour to dispose of the notes in Holland or in Germany, and perhaps leave Germany for America. The following week was one of communication with their brotherhood on the Continent, and all suspicious departures from Havre, Marseilles, Antwerp, Hamburg, Bremen, or any of the principal ports would be noted. The large reward which had been offered by the widow of the deceased was calculated to stimulate the energies of Scotland Yard; but the efforts of Scotland Yard resulted only in the following up of various false scents, all alike leading to disappointment and disgust.

The one scent which, if it could have been followed while it was warm, should have led to the apprehension of the murderer, was lost sight of because the lapse of time had made it cold before the Scotland Yard hounds could be laid on.

Ten days after the murder there came communications from the Crédit Lyonnais at Nice, from the Crédit Lyonnais at Cannes, and from Mr Smith's Bank at Monte Carlo, which disposed of the question as to what had become of the money which had been in the murdered man's possession.

In the morning of July 7 an elderly woman had called at the Crédit Lyonnais at Cannes to exchange two notes of £500 each for French money. She was a person of ladylike appearance and manners, spoke French with a Parisian accent, and impressed the cashier as a personage to whom the utmost respect was due.

From Monte Carlo came an account of a larger transaction. An elderly lady of aristocratic appearance had called at the English Bank there late on the afternoon of July 7, and had changed three Bank of England notes for £500 each, taking in exchange French notes, twenty franc pieces, and those large gold pieces of a hundred francs which make so fine a display in a rouleau on a *trente et quarante* table. Here, as at Cannes, the cashier had been impressed by the lady's distinction of manner and perfect *savoir faire*.

From Nice came a third telegram. Elderly woman exchanged two notes, each and such numbers as advertised, for £500 each, and one, also number as advertised, for £250, on July 8, at 11 o'clock a.m., at the Crédit Lyonnais.

Again, as at Cannes, the distinguished elderly lady showed herself eager for the utmost profit upon the exchange.

The money taken from the murdered man was thus accounted for—within a hundred and fifteen pounds. The odd money being in smaller notes they will not be disposed of without having any trace in the memory of the people who received it. There could be very little doubt that the elderly lady of Cannes was identical with the elderly lady of Nice and Monte Carlo.

One of the cleverest detectives in London charged himself with the task of following the trail of this nameless lady, taking up the thread at Nice after a quarter-past eleven upon the 8th July, which was the time of her latest recorded appearance.

There was nothing to show where the woman had gone when she left Nice. She was gone. From her appearance at the Hotel de France at Cannes to her disappearance from the Hotel des Princes at Nice she had been alone. No mortal had been seen to hold converse with her—whosesoever accomplice she might be she had been trusted to carry out her mission uncontrolled and unwatched.

"The bond between her and the murderer must be very tight," mused the detective, "or he would never trust her with the whole of his plunder. It's only natural that she has gone to Paris, and that he was to meet her in Paris; but how to look for a man of whose antecedents I know nothing, and of whose appearance I know only the vague impressions of three or four people who all describe him differently, is a problem beyond my intellectual powers."

He thought it worth his while, nevertheless, to spend the best part of a week in Paris, and in professional circles where, if ingenuity and long experience of criminal ways and windings could have helped him to a clue, he might have obtained one; but no clue was to be found.

He pursued his researches at Havre, but he could obtain no trace of any such person lately embarked on one of the numerous American and other steamers which leave that port.

"It's hard lines for a man to let such a chance slip through his fingers," the detective said to himself, "but I don't believe any man will ever earn the rich out of the reward for the discovery of Mr Hatrell's murderer. The job was too neatly done, and the people in it were too clever."

(To be continued.)

STONIO THE STONE-CUTTER;

A TALE OF WITCHCRAFT AND SCIENCE.

BY W. H. PECK.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

TORSA THROWS BRITTO FROM A WINDOW.

The meeting of the Duke and Stonio was cordial, though the latter did not suspect the relationship between them; Galvez and Carlos, at the desire of the Duke, having taken care that the recognition of Stephano Villota by Pietro and Sanlez took place without the knowledge of Stonio.

The latter presented to the Duke, whom as yet he knew only as Distro Demetrius the astronomer, the letter of which mention has been made. The Duke, after a perusal of it, said calmly—

"My English friend asks me to aid you in some grave matter, and I will do so willingly, but not to-night. I must have repose, my son. I am greatly exhausted by the cares and events of the past two days. So good-night, and no thanks for the service I have already done you."

Carlos made haste to attract the attention and presence of Stonio elsewhere, and the Duke, with his attendants, were well cared for by Galvez.

Ullima, having been cautioned by her husband, devoted herself to the comfort and repose of Lady Hilda.

On the following day, after all had partaken of the plain but plentiful fare provided by Galvez and his wife, the Duke led Stonio apart, and requesting his attention, related to him the history of the Villota family from its earliest annals, briefly to the time of the last duke, when his narrative was more minute.

As the reader has become acquainted with the main points of this history, we need not repeat all that the outlawed Duke told to Stonio.

"Count Pedro," said the Duke, "accomplished the destruction of the Villotas, of which family you say you suspect you are a member. As I told you, Gomez Villota was burned at the stake, the old duke died, the elder brother of the three sons escaped. There was an infant Villota—I will speak of him presently; or why not of him now? This infant Villota was confided by the dying duke to the care of three men."

"Of three men!" exclaimed Stonio, who had paid eager attention to all that had been said.

"To three men, trusted servitors of the Villota family, by name Carlos Romago——"

"Ah, Carlos Romago!" cried Stonio, his heart leaping to his mouth.

"Pietro Gallazi——"

"Pietro Gallazi!" echoed the excited listener, pale and trembling.

"And Sanlez de Rema."

"Good Heaven! the names of the three faithful men who have cared for me all my life."

"And thou art he who was the infant Villota," said the Duke, calmly. "Thou art Fernando Villota Marquis de Lota. Go tell this in Lisbon, and the enemies of thy race will be speedy in the effort to compass thy death. The Villota name is outlawed and accursed. Oh, my brother!" exclaimed the Duke, no longer able to control his emotions, and casting his arms around Stonio's neck, "embrace me, embrace me, for I am thy brother, Stephano Villota!"

We leave to the imagination of the reader the amazement and joy of Stonio.

The first transports of this recognition having passed, the Duke related his own history, from the time he disappeared from Portugal.

As it has little to do with our story, we gave it briefly thus—

Flying from the vindictive hate of the enemies of his house, and ignorant of the success of his scheme to deceive them into the belief that he had perished in the mountains, he had fled to Russia. There he entered the army, and served against the Tur